

RECEIVED 28 MAR 1868.

Thomas Fox

# ILLUSTRATED TIMES

REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD. THE RIGHT OF TRANSLATION AND REPRODUCING ILLUSTRATIONS IS RESERVED.

No. 680.—Vol. XII. LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1868. PRICE 3D.—STAMPED, 4D.

## MR. GLADSTONE'S RESOLUTIONS.

THE Irish Church question—to which we must once more briefly recur—has advanced a stage, and an important one, since last week. Mr. Gladstone's resolutions are now before Parliament and the country, and everyone knows the exact form in which the question will be

raised. What may be the result of the debate is a point on which it would, perhaps, be rash to speculate; but the issue to be decided is plain enough. "The Church of Ireland must cease to exist as an establishment." That is the substance of the first of Mr. Gladstone's resolutions, and removes all ambiguity on the point of disestablish-

ment. The subsequent resolutions indicate ultimately disendowment with equal clearness. There is thus no room for doubt as to the thoroughness of the reform Mr. Gladstone aims at. How the Conservative party will meet their opponents seems equally plain. Mr. Disraeli, more at the bidding of his party than from what can really be



RESTORATION OF CROSBY HALL, BISHOPSGATE-STREET: BANQUET TO THE WORKMEN ON TUESDAY LAST.



his own sentiments, has distinctly declared for the Church, endowments, and no surrender. There is likely, therefore, to be a fair stand-up fight; and, to do the Premier justice, he has as yet shown no inclination to shirk the encounter.

How he means to act should the vote be adverse, is not so clear. In the debate on Mr. Maguire's motion, he was supposed to hint a threat of dissolution, and talked of the "moral incompetence" of the existing Parliament to deal with so grave a question; and his adherents in the press loudly re-echo the plea. But, in the event of an immediate dissolution, the appeal must be to the existing constituencies; for the Reform Bill will not come into force till next year, and, as the registers require to be made up under the new system, which cannot be done till after July, no election can take place in which the new voters can poll till the autumn of 1869. The appeal, then, must be to the present electors; and are they more morally competent to pronounce than the present Parliament? If the existing House be moribund, the existing electoral body is condemned, and the one is no more competent to decide the matter than the other. It is difficult to see, therefore, what could be gained by a dissolution—even if the result should be favourable to the Ministry, which is much more than doubtful—except delay; and that, perhaps, is exactly what the Premier will work for. At all events, though the present Parliament may not be able to carry out a measure on the subject of the Irish Church—indeed, we do not see that it could have time to do so, for the work will not be the employment of a few months—it is fully competent, morally and legally, to pronounce as to the policy to be pursued; and that is all Mr. Gladstone's resolutions ask for.

As we anticipated last week, strenuous efforts are being made to obscure the question and mix up with it matters with which it has no necessary—at least, no immediate—connection. One enthusiastic Ministerial journal declares that the fall of the Irish Establishment will be certainly followed by that of the Church of England and the Church of Scotland too. Again, we say, may be so; but that is not the matter in hand just now. The Irish Church, the English Church, and the Scottish Kirk must each be judged upon its own merits, and will not be condemned except upon its own demerits. The first has been weighed in the balance, has been found wanting, and must go. It is in vain to try to prop it up by a cry of danger to the other two institutions. They, we may be sure, will receive a fair trial ere they are condemned, and need not necessarily be involved immediately in the fall of their peccant sister. Their time may come, but that time is not yet; and their friends will act wisely by not burdening them by hanging such a millstone round their necks as the Irish Episcopal Establishment. If a State Church be necessary (on which point we at present say nothing, though we believe religion—genuine religion, that is—will always flourish best when freed from State control and independent of State support) that Church should be the Church of the majority of the people. That is notoriously not the case in Ireland; and therefore, on the only ground on which such such an institution can really be justified, she stands self-condemned.

Much authority is being invoked in aid of the Hibernian Church. Sir G. C. Lewis is quoted by one party in support of the doctrine of general endowment—that is, in favour of leaving the Protestant Church her revenues and endowing the Catholics and other sects. That project might possibly have been entertained in 1835, when Sir George wrote; but it is too late now. Then Lord Plunkett is quoted in defence of the sacredness of the Church's rights, and of keeping things as they are. But Lord Plunkett was a Protestant, and, in the persons of members of his family, had a large interest in Church property. He is, therefore, not a fair judge; and, moreover, his opinions, too, are obsolete. Besides, of what value is mere authority on this or any other question? Are living men, with a tangible and sore grievance to deal with, to be bound by the opinions of those who have passed away? Must not each generation judge for itself of what is right and expedient in the circumstances in which it finds itself placed? We have a great respect for the opinions of Sir George Lewis, and some even for those of Lord Plunkett; but we cannot consent to be bound, on so important a subject, by the dicta of dead men, however eminent they may have been.

Then a great deal is said about "confiscation," "spoliation," and so forth. But those who talk thus forget that that argument is good against themselves. There was a Church in Ireland before the Protestant establishment was intruded upon a people as little consenting to its existence then as now. Protestantism in Ireland was founded on the spoliation of Catholicism; and to confiscation and spoliation on behalf of the Protestant Church the Irish people never consented, and do not consent now. The Church of Ireland should herself have cleaner hands ere she talks of spoliation. If a mere three hundred years' possession, against which an unintermitted protest has been made, is to confer unquestionable, inalienable rights, then we are forced to go further back, and inquire into the origin of the Irish Church's title, and see whether there were not older rights and a longer prescription vested in others, whom the Protestant Church despoiled. But the question is not one of prescription at all; it is simply whether a certain public institution, created by Parliament at one period, may not, for the promotion of the public weal, and having notably failed to accomplish the purpose for which it was called into existence, be abolished by

Parliament at another period. That is the plain issue to be decided; and the will and convenience of the existing generation are alone entitled to be consulted in the matter. Authority and prescription have nothing whatever to do with it; and must not be allowed to be pleaded in arrest of judgment.

#### CROSBY HALL.

ON Tuesday night there was a gathering in the ancient City palace, Crosby Hall, Bishopsgate-street, which was strikingly suggestive of the difference between *then* and *now*; that is, between the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries and this present 1863. On the walls of some of the rooms were portraits of ancient worthies, including those of Sir John Crosby, who originally erected the edifice, and Richard Plantagenet, the scheming and unscrupulous Duke of Gloucester and whilom King of England, in the quaint yet graceful costumes of the times in which they lived; while the floors were crowded by a miscellaneous assemblage of men and women, habited in the garb of these days—frock coats, chimney-pot hats, chignons, trailing skirts, infinitesimal bonnets—and all bent on sight-seeing and supping. The roofs, windows, balconies, and chimney-pieces of the rooms were ancient; the furniture, the dishes, and the guests were modern exceedingly. We could not help thinking, while ensconced in a corner out of the crowd, of what Dickon Crookback would have said could he have seen and heard the people who had so numerous "repairs to Crosby-place," and intruded themselves, their curiosity and their appetites, into his throne-room, and council-chamber, and banquetting-hall. A clean sweep, and a speedy, we trow, he would have made of the well-dressed and decorous but inquisitive mob. And to think, too, that the rooms in which he had walked, and plotted, and schemed, and betrayed all who trusted in him, should be destined to be converted into an ordinary place of refreshment, where a man may lunch for sixpence, dine comfortably for a shilling, or sumptuously for one-and-sixpence! Well, this is a utilitarian age, and perhaps Crosby Hall is better employed as a cheap and elegant dining establishment for hungry City clerks than when it was the scene of Richard's plots or of Lord Mayors' feasts. The new proprietors are Messrs. Gordon and Co., who have had the old City palace restored to all its pristine splendour, under the care of J. and H. Francis, architects; Wallace, Gordon, and Co., builders; Alexander Gibbs, decorator, who has supplied the stained glass, wall paintings, &c.; and of Mr. Bartholomew, to whom the furnishing department was intrusted. We wish a similar institution existed further west. Could not some enterprising individual be found to turn the Strand Music-hall to account in this way?

Crosby Hall is one of the most interesting buildings in the metropolis, and may be said to be the only authentic example of Gothic domestic architecture belonging to that period when the merchant princes began to take rank with the nobles of the Court. The Great Hall at Westminster is perhaps the finest existing specimen of the public buildings of ancient London (omitting, of course, ecclesiastical edifices), and Crosby Hall is the most striking and splendid of those palatial residences, only a few of which were erected in the City.

It is remarkable, considering how closely this grand old building has been identified with the history of the country, that it should have been permitted to undergo such strange vicissitudes in its own fortunes; and it is yet more wonderful that, notwithstanding those vicissitudes, it should have been spared from the alterations and adaptations which too often deface and destroy some of the most beautiful structures of a past age. The truth seems to be that Crosby Hall was so nobly planned and built as to restrain by the force of its own beauty the unhallowed hands which might otherwise have desecrated it; while its history and associations were in themselves so interesting that they secured its public recognition, and forbade the destruction of a building that had been able to defy the touch of Time himself, and seemed only to have mellowed into a more solemn beauty as the years went by.

Not that the entire edifice, which was originally called Crosby Place or Crosby House, remains standing. The less important portion exists no longer, and the building which has for so long been known as Crosby Hall is, in fact, the Grand Banqueting Room, the Council Chamber, the State Reception Room, and some other apartments belonging to the palace, courtyard, and garden which once occupied the site of what is now Crosby-square.

This splendid mansion of Crosby Place was built in 1466, by Sir John Crosby, on the ground leased from Dame Alice Ashfield, Prioress of the Convent of St. Helene. For this ground, which had a frontage of 110 ft. in the "King's Road of Bishopsgate Street," he paid £11 6s. 8d. a year—no small sum in those days—and immediately set about the erection of the hall and dwelling-house, which was afterwards described as being "ye highest and fairest in ye Citie."

Sir John Crosby, member of Parliament for London, Alderman, Warden of the Grocer's Company, and Mayor of the Staple of Calais, was the eminent grocer and woolstapler who, with eleven others, received the honour of knighthood in the field for their gallantry in resisting the attack made by the Bastard Falconbridge on the City. Sir John Crosby died in 1475, four years after the completion of the building to which he gave his name, and was buried in the Church of St. Helen, where his tomb may still be seen, bearing upon it the recumbent figures of himself and his wife. The knight is fully armed, but wears over his armour his Alderman's mantle, and round his neck a collar of suns and roses, the badge of the house of York.

In the following year, 1476, Crosby House became a palace in name as well as in reputation, in consequence of the widow of Sir John Crosby parting with it to Richard, Duke of Gloucester, afterwards Richard III. Then Crosby Place, like the less important Baynard's Castle, became the scene of those intrigues by which the wily Richard obtained the crown, and must have been peculiarly convenient to him as a residence, both from its contiguity to the Tower, where first King Henry VI., and afterwards the Princes were confined, and from its occupying a prominent place in the City, where he had influential and doubtless sincere supporters, and where he was anxious to obtain the suffrages of the people. The choice of Crosby House as a palace may, indeed, be included among those devices by which Richard achieved success; for in its magnificent apartments he was able to hold a sort of regal state, and having, as Sir Thomas More says, "lodged himself in Crosby's Place, where, by little and little, all folks drew unto, so that the Protector had the Court, and the King was in a manner left desolate;" he began at once to aspire to the crown, which, in 1483, was offered to him, in the council-chamber of Crosby Hall, by the Mayor, Sir Thomas Billesden, and a deputation of citizens.

We are most of us familiar with the story of Richard's treachery during his residence at this City palace, and not a few of us have learnt by heart that most familiar of all the plays of Shakespeare in which the story is told. Crosby Hall occupies a conspicuous position in the drama of Richard III., and it is evident that the poet had ample opportunities for studying the building itself; probably the play was written in the immediate vicinity of the building, or, possibly, even next door, for we know from the parish assessments that he was a resident in St. Helen's in 1598, and, from the amount of the sum levied, must have occupied a house of some importance.

During the time of Shakespeare's residence in the parish, Crosby Hall was in the occupation of Sir John Spencer, a London merchant, known by what to some people would be the enviable name of "the rich" Spencer. In 1594 he bought the palace for £2560, and afterwards held his mayoralty there, in splendid style; the celebrated Duke of Sully, then French Ambassador to the English Court, being one of the guests, who were lodged and entertained in right Royal fashion. Sir John Spencer's daughter was married to the first Earl of Northampton, and the wealth of the great London merchant served to increase the revenues of the succeeding Marquises.

Between the time when the Duke of Gloucester became King Richard III., and the year in which Shakespeare wrote his drama

Crosby Hall had been in possession of several masters. The palace seems at once to have been recovered by the then Lord Mayor of London as the appropriate residence of the chief magistrate of the metropolis; and in 1501 Sir Bartholomew Reade took possession of it, and during his mayoralty entertained and lodged the Ambassadors who came from Maximilian of Germany. The famous banquetting-hall was in full occupation at this time; and in reference to the distinguished guests received there, Stowe himself thinks one feast worthy of record for its great magnificence. Fifteen years afterwards (in 1516) we find Sir John Rest installed at Crosby Hall, after one of the most remarkable "Lord Mayor's Shows" on record, in which there appeared, according to the veracious chronicler, four giants, one unicorn, one dromedary, one camel, one ass, one dragon, six hobby-horses, and sixteen naked boys.

What was the symbolical significance of these remarkable objects we are not informed; but it may be remembered that the display had very little moral effect on the London 'prentices; for it was in that very year that the disturbances began which ended in the tragedy of what has ever since been known as "The Evil May Day," when the 'prentices and journeymen determined to assault the foreign artisans and merchants.

The cry of "Down with the Lombards!" was heard on the night of April 30, when the young men were at buckler-play in Chepe; and the mischief began by an attack on a calendar of worsted, a native of Picardy, who lived near Leadenhall. Very soon a general attack was made in several quarters upon the foreign dealers and workmen, who fled for their lives, leaving their goods to be destroyed. The goal of Newgate was broken open, and some of the assailants who had been imprisoned there were released; the work of destruction went on all night, and when the May-day morning broke there was still a crowd in the streets, especially near the Church of St. Andrew Undershaft, which occupied an open space in Leadenhall-street, where Lime-street now stands. Here the "Great Shaft of Cornhill," the mighty maypole, which had given the very church its name, was being set up, its top reaching above the steeple; but there were no May-day revels that morning, for the shout of the crowd of rioters was echoed by an answering shout, and an armed force from the Tower bore down upon the 'prentices and carried them off to that stronghold to be tried for their lives. Fifteen unhappy creatures were executed, and the rest went to Westminster Hall, half naked and tied together with ropes, each with a halter about his neck. There they besought the mercy of the King, and were pardoned. But the first of May, 1517, has ever since been known as the evil May Day, and the Great Shaft was reared nevermore, but hung on hooks under the pent-houses of Shaft-alley for thirty-two years, until the Reformation, when it was denounced as an idol by some zealous preacher, whose hearers, as Stowe says, "after they had well dined to make themselves strong," sawed it in pieces and divided the logs amongst them.

Long before that, however, Crosby Hall had passed into new hands. No less distinguished a person than Sir Thomas More, Under Treasurer, and afterwards Lord High Chancellor, of England, became its occupant. Here he received the visits of Henry VIII., and here he doubtless wrote some of those works which have contributed so much to his fame. Erasmus, who was his intimate friend and frequent guest, thus speaks of the domestic life of the author of "Utopia":—"With him you might imagine yourself in the academy of Plato; but I should do injustice to his house by comparing it to the academy of Plato, where numbers and geometrical figures, and sometimes moral virtues, were the subjects of discussion; it would be more just to call it a school and an exercise of the Christian religion. All its inhabitants, male and female, applied their leisure to liberal studies and profitable reading, although piety was their first care. No wrangling, no idle word, was heard in it; every one did his duty with alacrity, and not without a temperate cheerfulness." Surely these were the palmy days of Crosby Hall!

On being made Speaker of the House of Commons in 1523, Sir Thomas More sold Crosby Hall to his "dear friend" Antonio Bonvici, a merchant of Lucca, to whom the Chancellor sent that well-known letter from the Tower, written with a piece of charcoal the night before his execution. After the dissolution of the convent of Saint Helene, Bonvici purchased the property of the King for £207 18s. 4d.; and so Crosby Hall became a freehold, though not much to his immediate advantage, for in 1549 he forfeited the property "by illegally departing the kingdom," in consequence of the persecution; and Henry VIII., with his usual indifference to the rights of others, granted it to Lord Darcy of Chule. This nobleman, however, was induced, for "divers good causes," to restore it to its proper owner on the accession of Queen Mary in 1553. It remained without any remarkable change until 1560, when we find it occupied by German Cioil, who had married a cousin of Sir Thomas Gresham. A weekly bequest of this lady, Mistress Cyllia Cioil, is still distributed in Saint Helen's Church.

Again, in 1566, Crosby Hall changed hands, and became the residence of Alderman Bond, the inscription on whose tomb in Saint Helen's Church describes him as "a merchant adventurer, and most famous in his age for his great adventures by both sea and land."

It was at Crosby Hall that D'Assenleville, the Spanish Ambassador, was entertained by this civic Sindbad; and after the Alderman's death, when his sons occupied the palace, in 1586, the Danish Ambassador, Ramelius, was made an honoured guest there, and treated with all the sumptuous hospitality that belonged to the Elizabethan age. It was during the time of "the rich Spencer," however, that Crosby Hall was probably most distinguished, for the splendour of that mayoralty is traditional; and we might, in imagination, repeople the old hall with the brilliant guests that came and went: their very names a roll-call of the history of England during the period of England's growing fame and honour. Raleigh, Spencer, Sidney, Grenville, perhaps Drake and Hawkins, and the rest of those great men, all of whom were in sympathy with "merchant adventurers," in days when Richard Hakluyt was at Oxford, and Edward Osborne, clothworker and ancestor of the Dukes of Leeds, had but six years before served his mayoralty, with Spencer for Sheriff, and the mercantile navy of Great Britain had founded the empire of the sea. It was six years after the defeat of the Spanish Armada that Sir John Spencer lived at Crosby Hall. Need one say more in order to conjure up a scene that may well make the heart heave and the eye brighten? And yet four years afterwards a man lived close by whose name is more potent than that of any in that brilliant assembly; a man who stands first, not only in the muster-roll of that period of English history, but who stands in the very foremost rank among the thinkers of all time—William Shakespeare. The great dramatist had at that time become a joint proprietor in the theatre at Bankside, and doubtless found it convenient to live in this quiet, courtly nook of the City.

In 1603 Shakespeare probably assisted at the entertainment of the Ambassadors from Holland and Zealand, who lodged at Crosby Hall at that time; but in 1609 he had gone to live at Stratford, while his friend Ben Jonson was in London, perhaps waiting on the Dowager Countess of Pembroke, who then occupied the City palace. Most of us remember Jonson's celebrated epitaph on this distinguished woman:—

Underneath this sable hearse  
Lies the subject of all verse:  
Sidney's sister, Pembroke's mother:  
Death! ere thou canst find another,  
Good and fair, and wise as she,  
Time shall throw a dart at thee.

Jonson, who survived Shakespeare, was perhaps a guest at Crosby Hall when, in 1630, it came into possession of Spencer, Earl of Northampton, who inherited it by the marriage of his father with the only daughter of the Sir John Spencer already referred to. This nobleman was killed fighting by the side of Charles I., at the Battle of Hopton-heath, in 1642. He had then leased Crosby Hall to Sir John Langham, Sheriff of London; and, the King's cause having been defeated, the great hall was used as a prison in which Royalists were detained for trial. An order of the House of Commons, dated Dec. 7, 1642, directs the removal of ten prisoners from Crosby Place to Gresham College; and thence, on the 19th, to Lambeth House



The vicissitudes of this grand old building may be said to have commenced from that period; though, strange to say, it escaped the great calamity of the Fire of London, the house alone being injured, and the hall itself remaining unscathed.

For the next twelve years there is nothing very remarkable to record. The "Merry Monarch" spent his subjects' money merrily in the midst of his "merry Court," and the City lost its old influence. All England lost its influence, and public honour and virtue seemed about to wither under that "Merry Monarch" of misrule. It must be said in Charles's favour, however, that he was no persecutor; and there was a leaven in the nation which did suffice to leaven the whole lump, a leaven associated with the word patriotism, but which will be also found in the lives and works of those eminent teachers, preachers, and politicians, known as the Puritan Divines.

It is in connection with these that we discover Crosby Hall, in 1672, with a floor put into the Great Hall, so that the upper part of it, from the level of the minstrels' gallery, might be used for a Nonconformist meeting, under license of the Indulgence Act. For ninety-seven years it was devoted to this purpose, and during that time twelve different ministers succeeded each other; some of them men of high distinction indeed, the first being Thomas Watson, previously Rector of Saint Stephen's, Walbrook, and the author of the tract "Heaven Taken by Storm," which is said to have been the means of the conversion of the celebrated Colonel Gardiner. A numerous and wealthy congregation assembled at Crosby Hall, and Thomas Watson was succeeded by the more celebrated Stephen Charnock.

The ministers who officiated there after Charnock were Samuel Slater, M.A., John Reynolds, Daniel Alexander; Benjamin Grosvenor, D.D.; Samuel Wright, D.D.; John Barker, Clerk Holdsworth; Edmund Calamy, jun.; John Hodge, D.D.; and Richard Jones. Two years after the adaptation of the building to this purpose—that is to say, in 1674—the dwelling-house, which adjoined, and occupied the present site of Crosby-square, was burnt down, but the hall remained still uninjured.

For some time afterwards the grand old building remained unassociated with any especial public event, although the *Mercury* of May, 23, 1678, advertises a public sale at Crosby Hall, where "ye late general post-office was kept," the articles for sale including "tapestry hangings, a good chariot, and a black girl about fifteen years of age." In 1692 the property was purchased by the family in whose possession it still remains, and the lower part of the hall was let as a wholesale warehouse; and in 1700 it seemed about to take rank again as an important public building, for the council-chamber and throne-room were occupied by those "merchant adventurers" trading to the East Indies, who afterwards formed the East India Company and obtained their privileges by Royal Charter. This was probably only during the building of the India House, however, for we hear little of Crosby Hall until sixty-nine years afterwards, when it was disused as a meeting-house, the last sermon being preached on Oct. 1, 1769, by the Rev. Richard Jones, the congregation removing to Maize Pond.

There was, indeed, great fear that this magnificent hall would be utterly wrecked, for it was let to private individuals whose adaptations were likely to do it serious damage. It was greatly owing to the public spirit of Miss Hackett, a lady who lived beside it, that this almost unique example of domestic Gothic architecture was ultimately preserved. In 1831 this lady made strenuous efforts for its conservation, assisted by a few of the residents, some of whom still remain in the neighbourhood; and in 1836 it was reinstated and partially restored by public subscription, after which it was reopened by the Lord Mayor, W. T. Copeland, Esq., M.P., a banquet in the old English style being held on the occasion. In 1842 the entire premises were occupied by a literary and scientific institute, under the presidency of the Rev. C. Mackenzie, the hall being let from time to time for lectures and concerts; but in 1860 this society came to an end, and the place was then taken by Messrs. H. R. Williams and Co., the well-known wine merchants. In Mr. Williams's hands Crosby Hall underwent no damaging alteration; and, although it was used for purposes of business, due regard was had to its historical reputation and its intrinsic beauty.

**THE IRISH QUESTION.**—Cardinal Cullen has written a letter, in which he reviews the questions raised during the recent Irish debate in the House of Commons. The Cardinal thinks that a Government charter to a Catholic university, if properly carried out, would be applauded by Catholics. As to the land question, he proposes that, as laws can scarcely be expected compelling landowners to grant lengthened leases, they might be indirectly induced to do so by throwing upon them the payment of the rent-charge, as well as all county taxes and poor rates in the case of lands not let on long lease.

**THE PRESS PLAGUE IN CROATIA.**—A Cardinal of the Church of Rome and an Aulic Counsellor—George von Hanlick, Archbishop of Agram—has issued a pastoral to the faithful of his diocese, in which he speaks in the following terms of the press and its members:—"When we see that those who devote themselves to the press—for the most part men without piety or conscience—are endeavouring to ruin or to ridicule the sacred truths of the Christian faith, and the very principles of sound reason, and to bring unjust accusations even against distinguished public authorities, we are justified in saying that the liberty of the press has become one of the greatest evils of human society; or, to speak more precisely, a veritable public pest. How can we hope to see the end progress of general depravity and the spirit of resistance to legal authority arrested, when this herd of irreligious and conscienceless men, who are up to all the manoeuvres of deriving therefrom personal lucre, are allowed with impunity to scatter everywhere over the monarchic copies of their broad sheets by thousands? So great, unfortunately, is the publication of these sheets, and our large towns especially are so inundated with them, that there may be found in every street and spot, even in the hands of cabbies and old clotheswomen, these journals, filled with the most pernicious instigation." What will his Eminence say of the vote just passed by the Upper House of the Austrian Parliament.

**MEAT FROM AUSTRALIA.**—Several companies are at work in the colony of Victoria, or are preparing for business on a large scale, with the object of preserving the surplus of Australian meat for exportation to the mother country. Good mutton is now being sold in and round Melbourne, by travelling butchers, at 1d. per lb.; and experiments which have been made in preserving this meat are described as being perfectly successful. A number of tins of it were placed on board the *Galatea*, commanded by the Duke of Edinburgh, for the use of the officers and men; and his Royal Highness writes to the promoter of the company by which the experiment was made, stating that the leg of preserved mutton which had been supplied to his table (and which the company can deliver at 6d. per lb.) was remarkably good, and that the men highly approved of the beef which he had given them to try. The Paymaster of the *Galatea* gives a similar report. Both authorities, however, remark that it is to be seen whether the food will stand the test of a more prolonged preservation. The Australian gentlemen appear perfectly satisfied on this head; and English buyers will, ere long, have an opportunity of deciding for themselves.

**RITUALISM IN INDIA.**—The Government of India is just now placed in a very difficult relation to the Bishop of Calcutta. The Ritualistic controversy in the Rites extended to the 25th, one man of the latter, a Highlander, having grounded his arms at the door of the Dum Dum church, and refused to enter. The Bishop encourages the Ritualist Chaplains; the General of Division plays into his hands, and the discipline of the Army is imperilled. If the Chaplains and Bishop were military officers, as at home, the solution would be easy. The Viceroy, Commander-in-Chief, and his colleagues are now "sitting on" the Bishop, and all will depend on his Christian tact and good sense. The absurd order of the General is to be recalled, and soldiers are to be marched in military order to any church they may prefer. The following order will surprise many and delight more. It proceeds from the Governor-General in Council, and there can be little doubt the well-known Military Secretary, Colonel Norman, has had something to do with it:—"Order relative to a proposal for providing a room in the lines of European regiments in India to which the men can resort for private reading and prayer, and for holding prayer-meetings and other meetings of a similar character." Taking into consideration the difficulties and inconveniences experienced by pious and well-disposed soldiers of British regiments, owing to the want of some place of retirement for prayer and reading God's word, and for holding prayer-meetings and other meetings of a devotional character, the Right Hon. the Governor-General in Council has determined that a room of suitable size, with such furniture as may be deemed necessary to fit it for the purposes above-mentioned, shall be considered one of the recognised requirements in the barracks of every British regiment or considerable detachment of British troops." The order goes on to say that the room will be in a central position, but not in the barracks; that a residence will be assigned to a Scripture-reader in the married quarters; that the room shall be under the "general control" of the Chaplain and commanding officer; that the men shall be allowed "the utmost freedom and latitude" so long as they avoid "sectarian and proselytising discussion;" and that Government is assured the men will be orderly and not abuse this privilege.

## Foreign Intelligence.

### FRANCE.

Prince Napoleon has returned to Paris from his tour in Germany, the object of which has excited much speculation. On the morning after his arrival the Prince was closeted with the Emperor for several hours.

The Public Meetings Bill passed the Corps Législatif, on Wednesday, by a majority of 200 votes against 22.

Paris correspondence contains an account of a very interesting trial of fifteen Frenchmen, on the charge of being members of an unauthorised association. The society was called the "International Workmen's Association," and was formed with the object of effecting the "emancipation of working men from the tyranny of capital." The central board was established in London. The association was formed in the year 1865; and as long as it confined its operations to strictly trade purposes the French Government tolerated it. Lately, however, the society has interfered in all the strikes that have taken place, and also in every social and political question of the day. For these reasons the Government interfered, and instituted a prosecution to put an end to it. The Court decreed the dissolution of the association, and inflicted a fine of 100 francs on each of the defendants. The association, though only established three years, is said to number nearly two hundred thousand men.

### ITALY.

The Italian Chancellor of the Exchequer laid his Budget for 1869 before the Chamber of Deputies on Monday. It estimates the ordinary revenue at 775,531,835 lire, and the extraordinary revenue at 28,984,908 lire; the ordinary expenditure at 941,611,031, and the extraordinary expenditure at 62,651,221 lire. The total deficit would therefore be 199,745,509 lire, or 8,331,918 lire less than in 1868. The estimates for the Budget of 1869 are made according to the existing law.

"The police authorities of Florence," says the *Italie*, "have made an important arrest, that of Count d'E—, formerly a Colonel under the Bourbon Government, and now employed by that fallen dynasty as a secret agent. He was the bearer from Vienna of letters addressed to the ex-King Francis II. A sum of 20,000f. was found secreted upon his person."

### THE PAPAL STATES.

More French troops have been embarked from Civita Vecchia for Toulon, and those which are left are to be removed from Rome to Civita Vecchia.

### PORTUGAL.

The new elections in Portugal have resulted in favour of the Government, and tranquillity is completely restored throughout the country.

### PRUSSIA.

The baptism of the youngest son of the Crown Prince of Prussia was celebrated on Sunday afternoon. He has received the names Joachim Frederick Ernest Waldemar.

The North German Parliament was opened, on Monday, by the King of Prussia in person. In his speech his Majesty expressed his satisfaction at the manner in which the representatives of the Confederation had been received at foreign Courts, and said he was convinced that the blessings of peace would rest upon the labours of the Parliament.

The King has appointed Count Bismarck hereditary member of the Upper House of the Diet. A bill for the abolition of imprisonment for debt, and a factory bill, modelled upon the English factory laws, are about to be introduced in the North German Parliament.

The Prussian Government is preparing to abolish the duties on many products of useful manufacture and articles of domestic use, and to make up the deficit to the revenue by an increased tax on tobacco.

### AUSTRIA.

The Liberal party have been victorious in the Upper House of the Reichsrath in important divisions on the Civil Marriages and Public Schools Bills. The victory on the Civil Marriages Bill was celebrated by an illumination at Vienna on Saturday night. Immense crowds are said to have congregated in the streets, and to have made enthusiastic demonstrations in front of the residences of some of the Ministers, and also in front of the monument of Francis Joseph II. There was no disorder. Cardinal Rauscher and his political friends have addressed a document to the President of the Upper House of the Reichsrath, in which they announce that, in consequence of the vote of Saturday last on the Civil Marriages Bill, they are no longer able to take part in the discussions of the House.

In last Saturday's sitting of the Lower House of the Reichsrath the President communicated to the House a letter from the Minister of Finance, accompanying the presentation of his financial proposals for the removal of the deficit. The propositions are embodied in five bills, one of which proposes the sale of State domains to the amount of 25,000,000 florins; another the extinction of 20,000,000 of the floating debt; a third the raising of the tax upon lottery prizes to 15 per cent; a fourth a property tax, according to which property under the value of 1500 fl. will not be subject to taxation. The remaining bill relates to the conversion of the public debt. According to its provisions, the bonds of the public debt are to be converted into irredeemable rentes, subject to 12 per cent income tax. The interest is to be at the rate of 4 2/5ths per cent, and the conversion is to be made within a period of three months. The Minister will make his financial statement to-morrow.

### TURKEY.

The Grand Vizier has presented to the Sultan a very able and detailed report concerning his mission to Crete. The report explains the origin and true causes of the revolt, the measures adopted, and the concessions granted. In conclusion, the Grand Vizier says he considers the submission of the Cretans entirely completed, provided the Russian transport facilities and the open aid afforded by the Greeks are stopped.

### THE UNITED STATES.

The President answered the impeachment on Monday, and the House replied on Tuesday. The trial begins on Monday next.

President Johnson has vetoed a bill prohibiting appeals from the Circuit Court to the Supreme Court.

The Supplemental Reconstruction Bill, providing that elections under the reconstruction laws shall be decided by the majority of the votes cast, became law on the 12th inst., the President not having signed or vetoed the bill within the allotted time.

General Vickers, the newly-elected senator from Maryland, has been admitted to the Senate.

Mr. Wilson has introduced a bill in the Senate to authorise the issue of fifty years bonds, bearing 6 per cent interest for twenty years, and 5 per cent afterwards, the principal and interest to be payable in coin; the amount of the issue to be equal to the entire interest-bearing debt, except the Ten-Forty and Five per Cent Bonds. The bill further authorises the increase of the currency to 500,000,000 dols. The House of Representatives has refused to vote upon, but has referred to the Committee of Ways and Means, a resolution in favour of the gradual substitution of currency for bonds.

Mr. Jefferson Davis's trial has been postponed from March 25 until April 14, and his bail has been renewed.

### INDIA.

Mr. Massey made his financial statement in the Legislative Council on the 14th inst. The accounts for the present financial year show a surplus of £800,000, and a surplus of £230,000 is anticipated in the next year. The license tax is abolished, and a tax on trades and professions is substituted. There will be no loan, nor any new taxation. The proposed tobacco and succession duties are totally rejected. Public works will be energetically prosecuted.

### ABYSSINIA.

The special correspondent of the *Times* describes a visit paid by Kassai, King of Tigre, to the British camp. The Prince, after the usual exchange of courtesies, was presented with several handsome gifts, and then witnessed a review:—

The 3rd Bombay Light Cavalry, clad in light blue and silver; the 4th King's Own, in scarlet; the gunners of Murray's battery, in dark blue and red facings; and a small detachment of the 10th Native Infantry, with scarlet coats and white turbans, formed a picturesque and compact though small force. The cavalry charged, the infantry skirmished and formed square, much to the admiration of the Abyssinians; but they were chiefly delighted and impressed by the Armstrong guns. Kassai dismounted and closely inspected the pieces, handled the shells, looked through the rifled barrel, while some of his followers remarked that the English must be good Christians, or Heaven would not give them intelligence to mould such wondrous weapons. By this it would appear that, to their ideas, the greatest blessings which can be vouchsafed to Christian morality are firearms and gunpowder.

When the review was over Sir Robert Napier and the officers of his staff accompanied Kassai to the rivulet, and there intended to bid him farewell. At the point of parting, however, an urgent invitation was given that the English officers should visit the Abyssinian camp. The rivulet was crossed, and in a moment they found themselves in the middle of the army of Tigre. All were astonished at their appearance and armament. They clustered round the few Englishmen in dense but ordered masses. Their heads were bare, except for their plaited hair; their costumes were picturesque—long white togas embroidered with scarlet. They were nearly all possessed of firearms of every description, from the matchlock to the double-barrelled rifle; but by far the greatest number had double-barrelled percussion guns of English or Belgian manufacture. Many had pistols, and all had the long crooked swords worn on the right side—a cut from which it is said to be impossible to guard. The few—but there were very few—who had not firearms were armed with the sword, spear, and shield. Of the 4000 men present, about 400 were cavalry, mounted on mules or ragged, wiry ponies. The horsemen were armed similarly to the foot soldiers. Truly, these men are an enemy not to be despised. Hardy mountaineers, quick in scaling the most difficult paths in this rugged country, they would give an infinity of trouble to any European force. If Theodore's army is as well equipped, and his soldiers are said to be the better armed, there will be British blood spilt before Magdala falls, should the Negaski stand at bay. Nor numerically are the soldiers of Tigre contemptible. At Adowa, his capital, Kassai has some 6000 more, equally well armed. Their discipline is good, and in their short visit they showed a power of manoeuvring which would not have disgraced the forces of a civilised nation. Their serious error is that by night no sentries or pickets are posted outside their camp. Hence the wonderful effect of Theodore's night attacks, for which he has become famous, may be accounted for; and, as he has always adopted these precautions for his own security, no Abyssinian chief has yet been able to turn his own tactics against him. Up the hill went the English staff, with the drums beating in front of them, and surrounded by the dense clusters of wild warriors, until they approached close to Kassai's tent. Here they dismounted, and were bidden to enter. At the further side of the circular tent was a small couch covered with silk cloth, on which the Prince took his seat, and placed Sir Robert Napier at his side. The Abyssinian officers of high grade sat round the tent on the floor at the left-hand side of their chief, while the English also seated themselves on the ground to the left of their commander. The scene was mixed and picturesque. The afternoon sun shone through the red tent, and lighted up with a crimson hue the robes and silken skirts of the Abyssinians and the uniforms of the Englishmen. Girls bearing large baskets of Abyssinian bread and curry came in and placed them on the ground in front of the visitors, who were requested to eat.

Early the next morning Kassai paid a farewell visit to the British camp, and had a second private interview with Sir Robert Napier, the results of which are said to have been most satisfactory. He is reported to have promised to afford security to our convoys, to send in grain to the markets of our stations, and to have threatened with severe punishment any who should molest our telegraph throughout his dominions. Such results, if true, are of no slight importance, for in a country where every man is a soldier, and a well-armed soldier, convoys would have to be most carefully guarded, posts well watched, strong and frequent garrisons maintained, and the line of telegraph continually patrolled if the population were hostile, or even inclined to be unfriendly. Yet even the most sacred promises of the Prince of Tigre cannot permit Sir Robert Napier to dispense with troops in position along the line of communications. The friendship of Kassai might prove fickle. His jealousy of Gobaze might rouse his anger against us if we enter into friendship with the Waagshum, as we most certainly must attempt to do to secure similar advantages for our march through Lasta, as the loyalty of Kassai will in Tigre. And even if Kassai means and attempts to carry out his profession sincerely, he may not have the power to prevent attacks being made upon the convoys. The petty chieftain of any small district, eager for plunder and careless of his Prince's orders, might lead his clansmen to assault the convoys of stores in their passage from Senafe to the front. Thus, though it is probable that Sir Robert Napier will gain something from his interview with Kassai and the consequent friendship of the latter, and it is certain that at least a temporary quiet on the line of communication will be assured, his only real security is in being armed at all points, and in rendering himself, by his own judicious precautions, independent of all extraneous assistance.

A telegram from Suez announces that advices have been received there from Abyssinia, stating that King Theodore was intrenching in the neighbourhood of Magdala, and intended to give battle.

**LIFE-BOAT SERVICES.**—During stormy weather on the 22nd and 23rd inst., four of the life-boats of the National Life-boat Institution went out on service. Three of the boats, stationed respectively at Wexford, Cahore, and Courtown, Ireland, were launched to the assistance of the ship *Conway Castle*, of Liverpool, which, while on her voyage from Greenock to Melbourne with a general cargo, got ashore on the Blackwater bank, and was in a most dangerous position. Fortunately, however, by throwing overboard a portion of the cargo, and with the help of two of the life-boats and of some steam tugs the vessel was got off at high tide, the life-boats remaining by her until she was clear of all the land-banks and quite out of danger. The life-boat at Penmon, Anglesea, went out to the coal-laden brig *Jabez*, which was bound from Liverpool to Palma, and which had gone on the Dutchman's bank, off the coast of Anglesey. The life-boat had rescued five of the crew, when she capsized, and those in her were immersed. She, however, at once righted herself, and all the men fortunately succeeded in safely regaining her. Three more of the vessel's crew then launched the long-boat, and got into the life-boat for security, leaving the master alone on board. Soon afterwards he launched the dingy, but he was unable to reach the life-boat, and unfortunately perished. The boat then went on to Beaumaris with the eight rescued men. All were in a very exhausted state when they reached the shore, but their wants were carefully attended to. A steam-tug had started for this brig, but failed to reach her.

### THE BONAPARTES AND MARCH.

A WRITER in the *Moniteur de l'Armée* points out that, without being a fatalist, he cannot but think there is in the history of some personages epochs when great events periodically recur; and that the month of March seems to be for the Napoleon family that epoch. It is probably to this we owe the publication of "Les Titres de la Dynastie Napoléonienne." The writer in question reminds us that it was in the first days of March, 1796, General Bonaparte married Mme. Beauharnais, and a few days later he took the command of the army of Italy. In was in March that he descended from the Alps into the plains of Lombardy. In March, 1797, he reduced Italy, and opened a new campaign. It was on the last day of March that "the Crown of the Hapsburgs did homage to his sword and solicited peace from its vanquisher." In was in March, 1798, that Bonaparte decided on the expedition to Egypt; and in March, 1799, the people of the East saluted him as the "Sultan of Fire." It was in March, 1800, that he restored with a firm hand tranquillity to France. It was in March that the Code Civil was framed. In March, 1802, the Concordat restored religion, the Peace of Amiens was signed, and the Order of the Legion of Honour founded. In March the camps called the "Camps of the Ocean" were commenced. In March, 1804, the great conspiracies were formed against the First Consul. In March, 1805, Napoleon was not only Emperor of the French, but received from the Consulta in Paris the title of King of Italy. It was in March that the statutes regulating the position of the Imperial family and the decree creating the great duchies of the Empire were promulgated. In March, 1807, Napoleon bivouacked with his troops "in the midst of the mud of Poland." It was in March, 1808, that Charles IV. of Spain abdicated in favour of his son Ferdinand, though it was in May that Charles annulled that act and abdicated again in favour of Napoleon. It was in March, 1809, that the preparations for the campaign which led to Wagram were commenced. In March, 1810, the marriage of Napoleon with the Archduchess of Austria took place; "and, as if



the month consecrated to the god of war was to be the cabalistic epoch of the Imperial family, it was in the course of the same month his son was born." In March, 1812, the war with Russia was decided and announced. In March, 1813, the coalition of the Powers of the North was formed against France. It was in March, 1814, that the great Captain gained his last victory on the plains of Champagne and on the banks of the Marne; and it was on the 30th of the same month that the battle was fought which led to the abdication at Fontainebleau. It was on March 20 that Napoleon recovered the Imperial Throne. "It is not, then, without reason that the month of March seems to us to be the Napoleonic month *par excellence*;" and hence it was in the month of March that the Prince Imperial was born, and it is in March that Napoleon III. publishes his pamphlet on the titles of the Napoleonic dynasty. There are one or two events that happened in the same

"cabalistic month" which the writer has forgotten to mention—for instance, the shooting of the Duke d'Enghien at Vincennes, on March 21, 1804.

#### STATUE OF WILLIAM I. OF PRUSSIA AT COLOGNE.

VISITORS to Cologne, who remember it in the old days when the memory of Coleridge and his distinctive appreciation of forty varieties of evil smells in that town, whose reputation has been made by scented water, will now be surprised and gratified by the vast improvements which the more liberal policy of the Prussian Government has effected in the magnificent old place. In early years it seemed as though, because the cathedral could never be finished, the town was to wait for the cathedral; now, however,

whether the church will ever be completed or not may remain a question, natural or supernatural; but Cologne itself will, at all events, be worthy of its great commercial importance and legendary influence. The bridge over the Rhine was a great work, as all of us can testify who remember the queer old barge causeway to the queer Southwark suburb of the great German entrepôt; and scarcely inferior to the bridge itself is the fine equestrian statue, of which we publish an Engraving—a work modelled two years ago by M. F. Drate, and now, of course, entirely completed.

#### BURNING OF THE PALACE IN JEDDO.

THE news from Japan has recently been but scanty, but may be regarded as sufficiently important, since we learn that the Tycoon has been compelled to abdicate in consequence of the arbitrary



EQUESTRIAN STATUE OF KING WILLIAM I. OF PRUSSIA, FOR THE RHINE BRIDGE, COLOGNE.

power assumed by the daimios. Had the European representatives at Jeddo chosen to interfere in these internal disagreements, we might have been now on the borders of another foreign and distant war very little less costly and scarcely more ultimately remunerative than that in Abyssinia. As it is, trade is quite paralysed by the civil war between the daimios and the Tycoon. The latter has been totally defeated, and has fled to Jeddo. The Mikado has sent a note to the foreign Ministers declaring that the treaties will be respected.

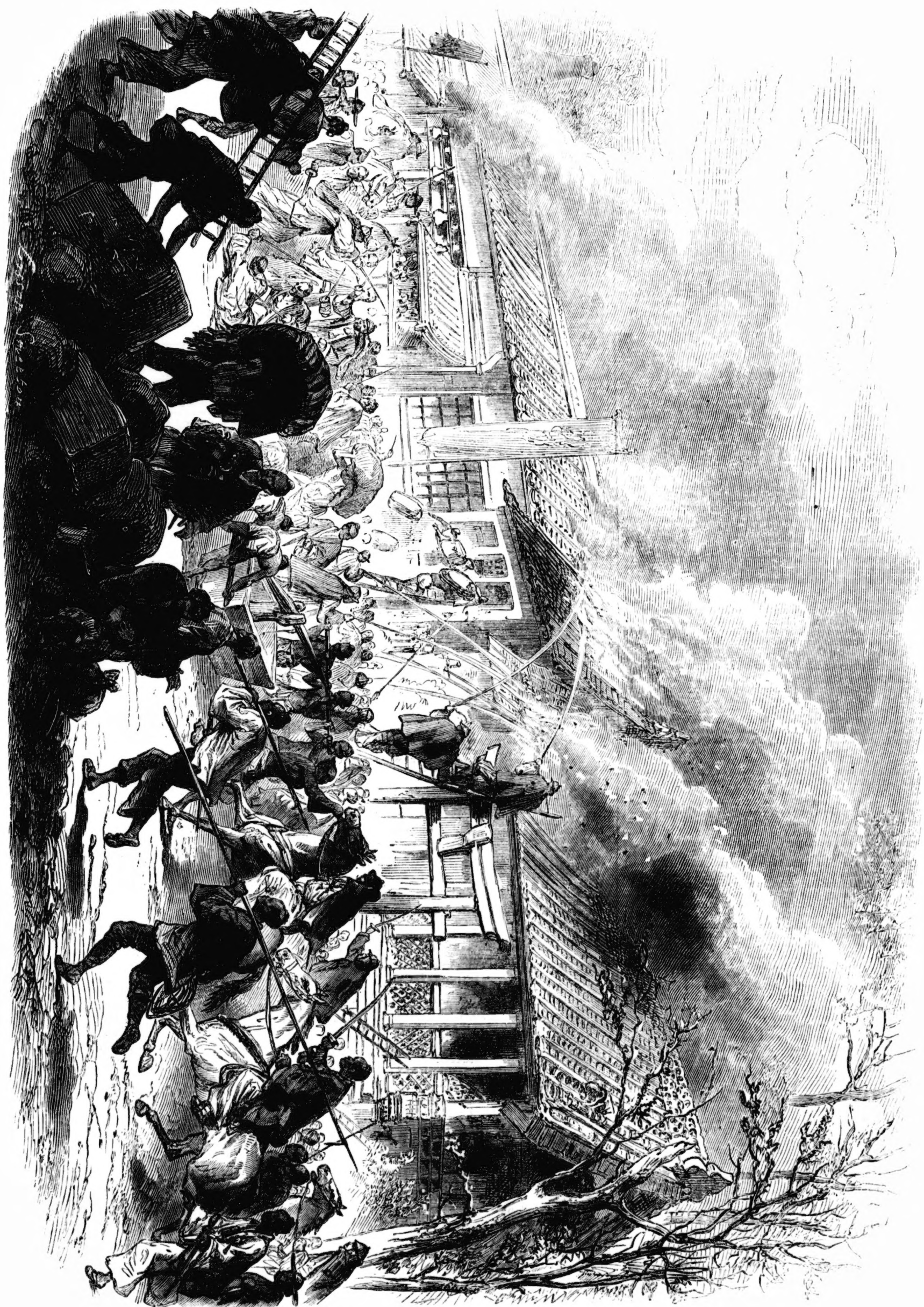
In the tenth century of our computation the Mikados of Japan were considered as the Divine representatives, and founded a dynasty, which they had afterwards some difficulty in maintaining against their rivals in the court. One of the Mikados, named Goguen Sama, succeeded in establishing an order similar to that of the Tycoons, and so contrived it that it possessed real power by reserving a theoretical reign to the Prince, who was a mere instrument in the hands of these nobles. Thanks to this organisation, the Tycoons endeavoured to fight against the warlike powers of the daimios, some of whom reigned locally over several millions of subjects; but, that nothing might shake the organisation of this re-

markable monarchy, Japan was isolated from the rest of the world, and became a type of absolute protection.

While other nations were striding on the road of progress, Japan remained crystallised in ignorant pride; and the Americans may claim the honour of opening the door of this strange empire, after the Dutch traders had, as it were, only just peeped through the key-hole. The American squadron gave an impetus to the Japanese, and their system was partially relaxed from the moment of the appearance of Commodore Perry in the waters. Some sort of commercial liberty was inaugurated that the Japanese people might avail themselves of European inventions; and all civilised nations profited by the arrangement. The prostrations, the genuflexions, the absurd reverence paid to the daimios by the natives, however, were refused by European visitors, and on more than one occasion their insolent looks were punished by the poniard; so that the most powerful agency of the recent revolution may be owing to the debates consequent on the foreign invasion, and the reduction of the proud nobles to the level of ordinary mortals. The chief of the movement is already well known here as Prince Satsuma, who seems not to have been educated yet, notwithstanding the terrible lessons

he received at Oasacca, although his flag floated at the Paris Exhibition beside that of his unfortunate rival. The issue of the struggle of which Jeddo is the theatre, and one of the incidents of which we represent in our Illustration, will ultimately exercise an enormous influence on the destinies of Japan, for, on learning the defeat of his troops in the streets of the capital, the Tycoon did not remain to defend himself, but placed his resignation in the hands of the Mikado, at the same time advising that Prince to reunite the daimios in full council and propose a reform in the Constitution. It was, of course, natural that the struggle in the streets should be most fierce around the palace of Satsuma. By virtue of one of the original articles of the order, the daimios who inherited power possessed a palace at Jeddo where they might reside during some months in the year. These princely dwellings, with their enormous retinues of servants, occupied a great extent, but were not of a very ornamental character, for, being as jealous of their domestic privacy as of their national exclusiveness, the daimios lived surrounded by high white walls. Of course, conflagrations are pretty frequent in Jeddo, and are generally very destructive—a rule to which this palace has proved no exception.





THE REVOLT IN JAPAN: BURNING OF PRINCE SATSUMA'S PALACE AT JEDDO.



## INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—NO. 325.

## THE MUTINY ACT.

ON Monday night the Prime Minister, in his reply to Mr. Gladstone's request that the Government would arrange to give him a day for the discussion of the resolutions on the Irish Church which he had just laid upon the table, said: "It is of primary importance that my right honourable friend the Secretary of State for War should take his vote for men to-night. If the House grant that, we shall be able to bring on the Mutiny Bill, and there would be time for carrying it on without interfering with the motion"—i.e., Gladstone's motion on the Irish Church, to come on for discussion on Monday next. All persons conversant with Parliamentary business know well what this means; but to thousands of her Majesty's subjects, possibly to much more than half of them, it is all a mystery; and, as we are always anxious in these articles to inform and instruct our readers, we will explain this matter. Every year Parliament passes two Mutiny Acts—one for the Army generally, and one for marines whilst on land. We for our purpose may treat these two bills as one. The Mutiny Act constitutes the Army; it does not merely govern it, but constitutes it. This Act will expire on April 25; and if another were not to be passed before that date, the Army would be dissolved. This may surprise some of our readers, but it is even so; and we will now show how it came to be so. Standing armies are repugnant to our Constitution. The law of England recognises no permanent armed force but the national militia. Standing armies were considered by our ancestors to be very dangerous tools in the hands of the Sovereign; they might be employed not only against foreign enemies, but against the people, to deprive them of their liberties and rights. "But," said Majesty, "I must have an army." "True, your Majesty—you must have an army; and we will grant you one; but it must not be a standing or permanent army. We will grant it to you only for a year; so that, if you should seem disposed to do mischief with this formidable weapon, at the end of the year we may wrest it out of your hands." This is the constitutional theory on the matter of the Army; and this is the reason why Parliament annually has to pass a Mutiny Act. It is to reconstitute or to continue the existence of the Army. It is said that one year, by some official blundering, the new Act did not receive the Royal assent until one day after the old Act expired; so that for some twenty-four hours England had no legal Army. What happened I know not; probably nothing. Most likely the thing was kept dark; possibly the story is a myth. We have said that, failing the passing the Mutiny Act, the Army would be dissolved, and this is really true; for, though deserters from their colours in time of war might, in such case, be tried for felony, they could not be tried by court-martial, but must be arraigned in the criminal courts and tried by a jury, whilst in time of peace deserters could only be proceeded against for breach of contract. But Mr. Disraeli intimated that the Secretary for War must get his vote of men before he could bring in the Mutiny Bill. Clearly, it is for Parliament to say whether it will allow an army; and, until it has consented to do so, and settled how many men there shall be in that army, no bill for constituting the army can be brought in. On that same night it was resolved that a number of land forces, not exceeding 138,691 men, be maintained for the service of Great Britain and Ireland from the 1st day of April, 1868, to the 31st day of March, 1869, inclusive. And, this being settled, the Committee voted the money to pay the men; and on Tuesday the Mutiny Bill was brought in and read a first time. Some of our subscribers, knowing in constitutional law and practice, may smile at all this, and think that there was no need to write it. But we know what we are about. Truth is, the people of England boast of their glorious Constitution; but, as a rule, know very little about it, and can learn but little about it; for, to our disgrace be it said, there is no popular guide to our Constitution available to the people. Indeed, until Mr. Shee translated the German Fische's admirable work, it was very difficult for anybody to gain a thorough knowledge of the machinery of our Constitution.

## THE GAUNTLET THROWN DOWN AND TAKEN UP.

On that Monday night we had a great crowd at the House, come to see Gladstone throw down the gauntlet and the Prime Minister take it up. Gladstone was in full feather, and lively as a lark. Indeed, it has been noticed that never was the ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer in better health or in higher spirits than he has been this Session. That wonderful oration on Irish matters last week was delivered with astonishing fervour, and even exultation. Disraeli, too, when he picked up the glove was equal to the occasion—calm, dignified, courteous, and generous. "Give the right hon. gentleman a day; of course, we shall be happy to make every possible arrangement of the public business to get for him a day; nay, we will arrange to give him a week." Of course, as these champions entered the lists they were loudly cheered by their respective partisans. But, though Disraeli was so cool, and collected, and dignified, he must know that a very formidable battle is at hand—one which will require all his daring and generalship. But we may rely upon it that he will be quite equal to the exigency. In his "Vivian Grey" (written, as he acknowledges in the preface to the last edition, when he was a boy) he says:—"No conjuncture can possibly occur (to a Minister), however fearful, however tremendous it may appear, from whence a man, of his own energy, may not extricate himself, as a mariner by the rattling of his cannon can dissipate the impending waterspout." Forty years have come and gone since this was written, and during that long time how often has he proved the truth of his theory? how often has he by the rattling of his cannon dispersed the impending waterspout? Next Monday, then, the fight is to begin. It will not end, probably, till Saturday morning. And how will it end? Ah! how indeed! "If anyone could get a 'tip' as to that," said a betting member, "he might make a potful of money; for both sides are hopeful, if not confident; and betting-men on both sides are quite ready to back their party." There was a time when we could generally foresee the result of a party struggle, for then as soon as the trumpet sounded every man took his side. But that time is passed; some say, never to return. If the Government should win, all things will go on as heretofore; but if Gladstone should carry his resolutions, what will happen then? Will Disraeli dissolve? This question has since Friday week been anxiously asked a thousand times, but to it there has come no certain answer. Nor do we believe that we shall get any answer before the division. After the Prime Minister had replied to Gladstone last week, it was generally thought that he had threatened a dissolution; but, on reading his speech the following morning, we could find no such threat. He said that the question ought to be relegated to the next Parliament, but nothing more. And it occurred to us, as we read this, that possibly here might lie in it, half concealed and half revealed, his future policy. Is it not possible that the Prime Minister, if defeated, may say, "We accept the decision provisionally, as the decision of an unreformed, dying Parliament; but shall take no action upon it, until it shall have been submitted to a reformed Parliament." "Depend upon it," said a fox-hunting squire, "however successfully you may think you have stopped the earth, this cunning fox knows some hole unstopped." Perhaps this is the hole.

## MR. SAMUELSON'S DEBATE.

On Tuesday night the House was for several hours but very thinly attended. Once, when we looked in, there were only twenty-eight members present. There was some talk of a count-out, but no count was possible. The third reading of the Church Rate Bill was upon the paper; and the whips of the Liberal party had determined to keep the House for that, and to prevent a surprise, they had secured a sufficient reserve force of members. They were not in the House, but in the dining-room, smoking-room, library, or tea-room; and if anybody had noticed that there were not forty members present, these, at the ring of the bell, would have promptly rushed up to save the House. But, though the House was so thinly attended, there was important business going on. The principal subject of debate was Mr. Samuelson's motion for a Select Committee to inquire into the provisions for giving instruction in theoretical and applied science to the working classes. And a very capital debate

we had upon this subject—a sound, useful, able debate. The reason why it was so good is not far to seek. The men who talked, in the main, understood what they talked about. Given, a man with a reasonably good capacity for speaking, who understands his subject, and you will be sure to have a good speech. Almost the sole cause why we have so much windy, futile talk in the House and elsewhere is simply this: men gifted with a fatal facility of talk will rush into the discussion of subjects which they have not mastered. Mr. Samuelson, who introduced the subject, is an ironmaster at Middlesbrough and a mechanical engineer at Banbury, manufacturing there agricultural implements, steam-machinery, &c. He is not an imposing-looking man. He has no special gift of oratory; he seldom addresses the House, but when he does speak it is always on some subject which he has mastered, and his speeches are invariably worth listening to. This subject he has made his own, and he knows as much about it as any man in England. Mr. Samuelson has travelled widely observed closely, and reflected seriously. He has discovered that English manufacturers have a severe struggle to maintain a successful competition with foreigners. How is it to be done? By superior skill and knowledge, he promptly replies. Skill the English workmen have, but they lack knowledge; and to inquire how this can be imparted to them is the object of the Committee which Mr. Samuelson moved for and got.

## A JOHN BULL.

We last week noticed that the speaking power of the House was getting more and more concentrated on the Liberal side. The speaking on Tuesday night was confirmatory of that statement. Almost all the talk in this debate came from the Opposition side of the House, and it was all good. Much speaking could not come from the other side, for there were scarcely any members present there. At one time during the debate there were only four—Lord Robert Montagu, who, as Vice-President of the Council, had to watch the debate; Mr. Henley, and two others. Lord Robert had to sum up, and it is but justice to him to say that he did his work exceptionally well. Mr. Henley, too, spoke; and a very characteristic speech he made, racy and English to the backbone. Mr. Henley is a Conservative, as all men know; but every now and then a curious democratic vein crops up. Here is something of that sort:—"He thought that we were rather disposed to call our workpeople hard names, which they did not deserve. These artisans certainly had not had a fair share of that wealth which they had helped to create." And then as to his nationality: clearly he believes that England is the best country in the world, and that English workmen are better than any in the world. "He has never seen," he said, "that man for man, the foreign workman can turn out more work than the Englishman. He doubted whether, man for man, our men would not work the foreigners' heads off. He could only say that he never saw them put to anything that they did not do it."

## Imperial Parliament.

FRIDAY, MARCH 20.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

## REGULATION OF RAILWAYS.

The Duke of RICHMOND moved the second reading of the Regulation of Railways Bill, which he described as consisting of six parts. The first related to accounts and audits, the second to the liabilities of companies as general carriers, the third to the safety of passengers, the fourth to compensation for accidents, the fifth to the appointment of arbitrators, and the sixth to matters of detail, including the saving of expense before Parliamentary Committees. Provision was made for keeping the companies' accounts in a uniform manner, and that copies should be furnished to every shareholder and debenture-holder. Powers were also given for a majority of the shareholders to require the Board of Trade to institute an examination of the accounts, and to report to the shareholders thereon; for it was very desirable that no department of the Government should assume responsibility for the administration of the affairs of so vast an interest as that of our railway system. Having explained the purport of the other main provisions, the noble Duke observed that the bill might not be so comprehensive as some persons desired, but then the subject was a very large and difficult one to deal with, and he had found, in the course of his labours in treating it, that it would be better to aim at some practical object on the more essential points than attempt a more comprehensive, and therefore probably an impracticable, measure. The bill, after some discussion, was read the second time.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## UNIVERSITIES TESTS BILL.

Mr. WALPOLE gave notice that on the second reading of the Oxford and Cambridge Universities Tests Bill he should move as an amendment that the bill be read a second time that day six months.

## THE PARTY PROCESSIONS ACT.

The Earl of MAYO stated, in answer to Sir C. Lanyon, that it was not his intention to propose during the present Session the repeal of the Party Processions Act.

## THE FINANCES OF INDIA.

Sir S. NORTHCOTE explained, at the instance of Mr. Crawford, that he had received a statement with regard to the finances of India of a very satisfactory character. It set forth that the estimated surplus for the current year amounted to £800,000; and for the coming year, 1868-9, to £230,000, after providing for all public works excepting irrigation.

## THE LAW OF ALLEGIANCE.

On the motion for going into Committee of Supply, Mr. W. E. FORSTER called attention to the effect of the law regulating the allegiance of British subjects who have emigrated to foreign countries, and especially to the United States of America, and inquired whether the Foreign Secretary did not think the time was opportune for attempting to arrive at a mutual understanding between her Majesty's Government and that of the United States respecting the right of expatriation. He suggested that a mixed Commission might be appointed to settle the matter, because American law required alteration quite as much as our own, England and America both denying the right of self-expatriation.

Lord STANLEY thought Mr. Forster had done good service in bringing this question forward, and would at once declare that he saw no reason to dissent from the general tendency of the views the hon. member had expressed. He had directed our Minister at Washington to express to the Government of the United States the wish of her Majesty's Government to take the whole question into consideration, and, if they would act in the same manner, to meet them half way respecting it. He was unwilling to give any distinct pledge to the House, but he thought it likely before anything was concluded that it would be found necessary to have an inquiry by competent legal authorities into the various technical difficulties and points of detail.

MONDAY, MARCH 23.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

## THE BANKRUPTCY LAWS.

The Lord CHANCELLOR moved the second reading of the Bankruptcy Acts Repeal Bill, the Bankruptcy Bill, and the Judgment Debtors' Bill, which he described as embodying the recommendations contained in the report of the Select Committee of the House of Commons on the subject of bankruptcy, and the provisions of which he explained at considerable length. After some observations and suggestions by Lord Westbury, Lord Chelmsford, and Lord Romilly, the bills were severally read the second time.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## THE IRISH CHURCH.

Mr. GLADSTONE, who was received with Opposition cheers, said the motion which he wished to make on the Irish Church would be in the form of three resolutions, to be moved in Committee on Acts relating to the Established Church in Ireland, and the terms of the three resolutions would be these:—"1. That in the opinion of this House it is necessary that the Established Church of Ireland should cease to exist as an establishment, due regard being had to all personal interests and to all individual rights of property. 2. That, subject to the foregoing considerations, it is expedient to prevent the creation of new personal interests by the exercise of any public patronage, and to confine the operations of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners of Ireland to objects of immediate necessity or involving individual rights, pending the final decision of Parliament. 3. That a humble address be presented to her Majesty, humbly to pray that, with a view to the purposes aforesaid, her Majesty would be graciously pleased to place at the disposal of Parliament her interest in the temporalities of the Archbishops, Bishops, and other ecclesiastical dignities and benefices in Ireland, and in the custody thereof."

Monday next was fixed as the day for discussion on these resolutions.

## THE ARMY ESTIMATES.

Sir J. PAKINGTON made his statement on the Army Estimates in Committee of Supply. Although the Estimates apparently amount to fifteen millions and a half, a deduction should be made for a million and three quarters for services which had nothing at all to do with the Army; as, for instance, the provision of stores for the Navy and Ordnance survey. The

increase in the Estimates for this year is in some measure owing to the provision for an Indian regiment for Hong-Kong service, the addition to the strength of the militia, the extension of the volunteer grant, and the survey expenditure. The recruiting of the Army is in a very satisfactory condition, recruits being readily obtained at less cost than formerly. Sir J. Pakington justified his refusal of an increased grant to the volunteers, and his reluctance to adopt the recommendations of Mr. Childers's Committee on promotion in the non-purchase corps. Sir H. Storks and General Balfour have drawn up plans for improving the external control of the War Department and the system of audit, which will lead to a considerable saving; and they are also prepared to recommend changes in the transport service. The Secretary of State for War also announced that he contemplates the creation of a new office of commandant of the manufacturing departments at Woolwich, with the view of endeavouring to bring them into harmony and more economical working. With regard to the arm of the future, Sir John mentioned that no decision has yet been come to, but that Lord Spencer's Sub-Committee is inquiring into it; in Sir John's own belief no country possesses a better arm than the Snider. This year it is intended to convert 160,000 Enfields to Salders, against 210,000 last year, at a cost of £159,604, and this will exhaust the Enfields available for conversion.

Mr. OTWAY moved to reduce the total number of men to be voted for the Army by 2758, being half the garrisons of the West Indies and the Mauritius.

The motion was discussed and withdrawn, the vote of 138,691 men being agreed to; and votes being taken which, with the sums already granted on account, made up £5,378,379 pay allowance and charges, £1,239,807 Commissariat establishment.

TUESDAY, MARCH 24.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

## EDUCATION.

The Duke of MARLBOROUGH explained the plans of Government as to primary education. The Administration had arrived at the conclusion, first, that there was a field of enterprise sufficiently large to engage the consideration and attention of a special department of the State, and with that view they would ask Parliament to enable her Majesty to appoint a Secretary of State who should have the whole range of educational matters under his control, and not only administer the grants now administered by the Privy Council, but propose to Parliament all such schemes as it might be considered desirable to promote. They also intended to bring in a bill containing those portions of the Revised Code which related to the distribution of the grant and to the terms upon which the money was given. That code had, so far, worked well and given satisfaction to the public. The great change made by the Revised Code in 1860 was in requiring that future payment should be made for results; and the Government had determined that an alteration might be made in the code and embodied in the bill which was about to lay on the table. This was by omitting the conditions that all the schools which received aid must be in connection with some religious denomination, and providing for payment according to results on a secular principle, so that when a school offered itself to be inspected, and showed that it complied with the conditions of the grant as to sanitary arrangements and space, it should not be denied the benefit of the Government grant. At the same time it was intended to insert in the schedule of the bill the management clauses relating to the inspection of Church of England and other denominational schools exactly as they now stood. For the purpose of enabling small schools in the poorer districts to participate in the grant, it was proposed, without abandoning the system of certificates, to take a limit below which schools might receive a portion of the annual grant without the employment of a certificated teacher. It was further intended to make some addition to the building grants and to amend the Conscience Clause by providing that the religious teaching of the school should be left uninterfered with, but that every parent should be at liberty to withdraw his child whilst religious instruction was being given, and to empower the new Secretary of State to take an educational census, so that Parliament might possess full information upon the subject. The noble Duke then laid upon the table the bill embodying these several purposes.

After some discussion, in which Earl Granville, Earl Russell, the Earls of Cork and Harrowby, and the Bishop of London took part, the bill was read the first time.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## LICENSES.

Mr. MARSH directed attention to the subject of such licenses as operate to restrict the trade and commerce of the country, with a view to their abolition, and, in case of financial necessity, a transfer of the charges to make or sell any article to a direct tax on the article itself, and moved that it was desirable that all licenses injuriously affecting industry and commerce should be abolished.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER admitted that the subject was one which it was very difficult to deal with, and if the motion were pressed to a division he should meet it with a negative. He reminded the House that the commodities for the manufacture and sale of which licenses were necessary were exorbitant articles; but he promised to give his best consideration to the suggestions of Mr. Marsh.

After a short debate, the motion was withdrawn.

## TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

Mr. SAMUELSON proposed and Mr. DIXON seconded the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the provision for giving instruction in theoretical and applied science to the industrial classes.

The motion gave rise to a long discussion on the question, whether it was necessary that primary education should be supplemented by scientific and technical instruction or not, and Lord ROBERT MONTAGU assenting on the part of the Government, the motion was adopted.

## CHURCH RATES.

The Compulsory Church Rates Abolition Bill was read the third time and passed, after a division on a motion by Mr. Newdegate that the debate be adjourned, and which was negatived by 131 to 28.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The second reading of the Grand Jury Cess (Ireland) Bill was moved by Mr. Stacpoole. Its object is to divide the incidence of the county cess between the owner and occupier, and it was opposed by Lord Mayo, on the ground that the whole subject had recently been referred to a Select Committee. On a division the bill was thrown out by 70 to 57.

The Committal of The O'Conor Don's Industrial Schools (Ireland) Bill, the object of which is to extend the system of industrial schools to the sister country, was opposed by Mr. Peel-Dawson, Mr. Vance, and others, on the ground that it was very distasteful to the north of Ireland, and that it will be a very serious blow to the united system of education. Lord Mayo, though expecting very little practical effect from the bill, recommended the House to go into Committee. On a division the stage was carried by 82 to 46, and forty clauses were agreed to.

The remainder of the afternoon was occupied in the discussion of a bill introduced by Mr. Beresford-Hope to regulate the institution known as Tancred's Charities at Whitley, in Yorkshire. It was opposed by Mr. Shaw-Lefevre and others, and on a division it was thrown out by 83 to 69.

The Mutiny Bill was read the second time.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26.

## HOUSE OF LORDS.

Earl STANHOPE moved for the appointment of a Select Committee to inquire into the operation of any law or laws as to the assumption of ecclesiastical titles in Great Britain and Ireland; and whether any and what alteration should be made therein.

The motion was agreed to.

## HOUSE OF COMMONS.

## LAW OF BANKRUPTCY.

Mr. MOFFATT called the attention of the House to the position of Parliament in reference to the amendment of the law of bankruptcy, and to the expediency of introducing a bill into the House for that purpose without delay. The hon. gentleman pointed out what he considered grave defects in the present Act, instancing, among other things, the fact that there had been no less than 5876 bankrupts' estates which had not realised anything for the creditors after paying the heavy expenses which were necessary.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said the Government had already introduced a measure into the House of Lords, and when it came down to this House the hon. member would have an opportunity of discussing it.

## THE ARMY ESTIMATES.

The House went into Committee of Supply on the Army Estimates, and several votes were agreed to.

## THE MUTINY BILL.

The House having immediately resumed, the order of the day for going into Committee on the Mutiny Bill was read.

On clause 22, which related to the punishment of flogging, Mr. Otway moved a proviso, having for its object to abolish corporal punishment in the Army during the time of peace.

After a brief discussion the Committee divided. The result was the success of the amendment, and the defeat of the Government by a majority of 152 against 127.

The clause was amended accordingly, amid much cheering.

The bill then passed through Committee.

Mr. CARTER, the Liberal candidate, has been returned for Coventry by a majority of 258—the numbers polled being, Carter, 2394; Hill, 2396.



**TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION TO THE ILLUSTRATED TIMES.**  
(In all cases to be paid in advance.)  
Stamped Edition, to go free by post.  
Three Months, 4s. 4d.; Six Months, 8s. 8d.; Twelve Months, 17s. 4d.  
Post Office Orders to be made payable to THOMAS FOX, Strand Branch.  
Four Stamps should be sent for Single Copies.  
Office: 2, Catherine-street, Strand, W.C.



SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1868.

**THE IRISH LAND QUESTION.**

SOME years ago, until Fenianism first assumed a formidable aspect, it used to be the fashion to say that the Irish had nothing to complain of. They were governed by the same laws as the English, and they were taxed somewhat more lightly. The existence of the Established Church was regarded merely as a "sentimental" grievance, while the absence of a law on the subject of tenant right, and for the protection of the tenant, was not looked upon as any grievance at all. In England, as in Ireland, there is no law by which a landlord can be forced to allow compensation to a tenant who has spent money on the improvement of his farm; nor can the landlord, in one country more than the other, be compelled to grant his tenant a lease.

However, the debates in Parliament and the newspapers all over the country show that there are two questions—that of the Church and that of the Land—which are of much greater importance than the critics of Irish affairs formerly supposed. For both these questions solutions must be found; and it may be said, at this moment, that the doom of the Irish Church has been pronounced. On the land question, however, opinion is not so decided. The Government is not unwilling to legislate on the subject of "tenant right," or what passes under that name; nor is the Opposition of one accord as to what, in place of the mild Ministerial propositions, it ought itself to recommend. In the meanwhile, the material grievance arising from the system of land tenure in Ireland is not nearly so intelligible as the "sentimental" grievance of the "alien Church." We have only to imagine what our feelings as Protestants would be if the Roman Catholic Church were established and maintained by law throughout England to understand what the Roman Catholics of Ireland must feel with respect to the Protestant Establishment in their country. The land grievance is not nearly so plain a matter. It exists in different parts of Ireland in different forms; and the most varied schemes, from a law requiring all contracts in respect to land to be made in writing to virtual confiscation of the proprietor's land for the benefit of the tenant, have been suggested for its remedy.

The friends of the tenant maintain that the insecurity of his position exposes him to all sorts of wrongs. He may at any moment receive notice to quit; while, so far from being encouraged to make improvements, he is by no means sure that to increase the value of his farm will not be viewed by the landlord as an invitation to raise the rent. The tenant farmer has no security for the fruits of his labour, and he can only be enterprising at his own cost and to his own damage. He is thus morally, and to some extent legally, in the position of a serf. The worst economical effect of serfdom was certainly this, that the serf had no stimulus to exertion, but rather the contrary. The intelligent, skilful serf was worth more to his master, but not more to himself, than the idle, incapable one. If a serf amassed a little fortune, it did not belong to him, but to his owner. There were bad and good masters, as there are bad and good landlords in Ireland; but, in the eye of the law, a serf could only enrich himself for the benefit of his master, and in Ireland the tenant only improves his farm that the proprietor may charge an increased rent for it. The answer to all this, on the part of the landlords, is that if they were to allow their tenants to charge them for what they may choose to call "improvements," all kinds of useless drains, fences, embankments, and buildings without number would be made, merely that the bill might be sent in to the proprietor. As that would be manifestly unjust, numerous compromises have been suggested, by which neither could the tenant saddle the landlord with the cost of all the agricultural experiments he might feel disposed to make, nor the landlord defraud the tenant of the value of improvements properly so called.

What particular compromise should be adopted is a question which will evidently bear a great deal of discussion. Leases of thirty-one years duration have been recommended. Mr. Brett is of opinion that leases of not less than sixty-one years ought to be alone recognised by law. Mr. Bright advises that the Government should assist the tenant to buy his holding from the landlord, but only in cases where landlord and tenant may come to an agreement on the subject; while Mr. Mill goes much farther, and proposes to dispossess the landlords for the benefit of the tenants, without reference to their wishes. Neither Mr. Bright's nor even Mr. Mill's measure could satisfy that portion of the Irish population which is, above all, dissatisfied now; for if all the tenants in Ireland were suddenly made proprietors there would still be an immense body of farm labourers and workmen of all kinds who would possess no landed property, and who would naturally be jealous of those who had just been endowed

therewith. There are other objections to both the schemes. Mr. Bright's project is very much fairer than Mr. Mill's; for it is only when the tenant is willing to buy and the proprietor to sell that he would have the Government step in. But in all cases when the Government *did* advance the purchase-money, it would have to look to the tenant for repayment of it; and in collecting the instalments due on a loan it would run the risk of making itself as odious as the landlord now, in many cases, does by collecting his arrears of rent.

It is, of course, quite contrary to the modern and much-vaunted principle of free trade that a landlord should be bound by law to let his land on lease or not let it at all. But there appears to be so little sympathy, and there are such frequent misunderstandings, between landlord and tenant in Ireland, that some sort of Government interference is now generally admitted to be necessary. This absence of sympathy between those who own the land and those who pay so much rent for the privilege of cultivating it, is no doubt at the root of the evil; and for this reason alone it would be right to give the religious question precedence over the economical one. If the disestablishment of the Protestant Episcopal Church in Ireland, and the placing of all religious bodies in that country on a perfect equality, have—after a time—the effect of allaying religious prejudices and antipathies, the relations between Protestant landlords and Catholic tenants would become more harmonious of themselves, whatever might in the meanwhile have been done towards that end by legislation.

**SPRING.**

THE poets, so many of whom begin their odes to Spring with "Hail!" may be considered to have a practical appreciation of the weather generally inaugurating the April month in these latitudes, all their subsequent rhapsodies notwithstanding. The spring-tide in England, at all events—although, as Byron says, it exhibits "Glorious weather; clouds and sunshine mixed together"—is too uncertain in its fitful glimpses of brightness and warmth to tempt any but the robust and the cheerful out of doors into the woods and fields. There are beauties of the spring season, however, which belong to no other period of the year; a wondrous stirring into life—a marvellous indication first, and then a tender development of form and colour—which is in itself a miracle almost awful in its immensity. Not a hedgerow in a common country lane, not a space of meadow lawn, not a garden border, or a little bit of coppice-wood, but has its silent rejoicing advent of the new life of the world heralded in a hundred ways. Still more wonderful are the jubilant recognitions of all this stir and growth, this glorious new birth of Nature, among the living creatures. The uncertain days and cold biting nights, the hours of plashing rain and mist, the threatnings of renewed winter and the half doubtful gleams that seem but faint illusions of summer, forbid that life in the green wood which is so lauded in drawing-room ballads. But the hope is never withdrawn; the morning's light dawns tenderly, the sun goes up like a strong man to run a race, and after night-fall, when "the stars rush out," and the moon sails white and ghostly in the clear blue, there are hours for lovers' walks in the broad wooded glades and along the sweet slopes of our country; only let all such wandering creatures be careful to think of cloak or overcoat beforehand; cloak, perhaps, is best, if only fashion would allow it to be worn, for the cloak worthy of the name will cover two, and then a shower becomes a blessing for which to thank the uncertain April skies. The time has long past, it may be feared, when youths and maidens gathered spring posies for each other in the woods and lanes, or pulled off the bright petals to see whether their love would come true, a method scarcely less sure than many others which fashion may have ordained, and, probably, as little to be relied on for securing peace of heart. We can no longer take lovers' art-magical charms and ceremonies as indices of the presence of spring in earnest. Some people even say that the lovers themselves are in earnest no longer; which is sad, if true, for it would be a happier faith to think that "true love" had grown truer still, and that the old proverb about "lovers' vows" had been relegated to the lying limbo of all false and cynical maxims.

Whatever may be the case with lovers, however, they have given up their old spring customs, and we must look to their ancient friends the birds and the flowers if we would read the vernal signs. The storks in the more northerly countries of Europe do the work of spring's heralds, their great white wings bearing them, who can tell what weary miles, over sea and land, to the nests of twigs, the great wooden boxes, the queer contrivances balanced on old gable-end houses and quaint church steeples. Right away from Asia come the feathered flocks to these strange homes provided for their use by the Germans and Hollanders, who love the storks that wheel about the great cathedral churches of their towns. Our drained marshes and the want of encouragement, the busy traffic of our streets and the rush of commercial activity, have conspired to banish storks from England; but there was never a very large colony of them here. The swifts and martins, the swallows and other bright darting creatures, are our smaller remembrancers; and, by the time the storks in the queer old German towns are regarding their fine dull-yellow eggs up in the rocking belfries, the swifts and martins here are busy in their nests of mud or flit twittering about the eaves of cottages and country wayside inns. The bees, too, have a share in the great universal resurrection to life, and add their busy note to the gathering orchestra of praise. It is only in towns that spring seems to have no voice, in the midst of streets where men go on working and hoarding, striving and toiling, all the year round, and see never a flower. Stay! Even here, in the heart of busy London, the girls stand about the Royal Exchange (at such times as the active and intelligent officer is away on his more distant beat) and offer violets at a penny a bunch. Even in the shops gay colours creep into the windows, and there is already a humming undertone of zephyr coats, light scarves, decorative shirts, and Epsom hampers whenever a periodical burst of golden sunshine reminds us that the young year is growing strong.

**THE IRISH REFORM BILL.**—The proposal contained in the Irish Reform Bill, introduced on Thursday night, by Lord Mayo, for the disfranchisement of Downpatrick, Dungannon, Bandon, Kinsale, Cashel, and Portlinton, will, if adopted, deprive the following gentlemen of their present seats in the House:—Mr. W. Keown, Major the Hon. W. Stuart Knox, Colonel the Hon. H. B. Bernard, Sir G. C. Colthurst, Mr. J. L. O'Beirne, and the Right Hon. J. A. Lawson. The former three are Conservatives and the latter three Liberals.

**REAL CHRISTIANITY IN ABYSSINIA.**—A fine trait of Abyssinian character is mentioned in a story told by the correspondent of a contemporary. The natives, it appears, have a great objection to our foraging parties helping themselves to grass and wood, though they do not mind supplying us with forage at a good profit. They have had many quarrels with our men on this subject, and more than one fight. On one occasion a number of Hindoo camp followers were found gathering up the dry wood in a sacred field. A priest appeared, and called on them as Christians to desist, when the Hindoos made some gestures of contempt or abhorrence at the name of Christians. The priest and his followers then fell upon them, and a struggle ensued. The Hindoos retired on the camp, and the Abyssinians followed; and their priest was seized by a camp policeman and taken before Sir Robert Napier. Sir Robert, after investigating the whole matter, ordered the Hindoos a dozen lashes a piece for insulting the religion of the people. "But here the Abyssinians really showed themselves to be Christians, for the priest and his witnesses, all of whom bore marks of having suffered in the skirmish, knelt down and said they would not rise until the culprits were forgiven, which accordingly they were."

**SAYINGS AND DOINGS.**

THE QUEEN has written to inquire after the health of Mrs. Flow, of Todmorden, who, by the latest accounts, was in a fair way of recovery.

PRINCE ARTHUR is about to undertake a tour, in the course of which he will visit most places of interest in Italy and the East.

LORD DERBY, on the advice of his physicians, will take up his residence at Cannes until the end of May.

THE DUKE OF BUCKINGHAM will succeed the late Lord Carington as Lord Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire.

MRS. DISRAELI HAD A RECEPTION at the new Foreign Office on Tuesday evening, which was very numerous and fashionably attended.

AN AUTHORIZED GERMAN VERSION of the "Queen's Journal" is about to be published by Perthes, at Gotha.

MR. GLADSTONE will preside over the statistical section at the approaching meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science at Norwich. Professor Huxley will also address the working classes.

THE MARRIAGE BANS of the Duchess de Morny with the Duke de Soto have just been published in Paris. The wedding will take place in Spain.

HIS HOLINESS THE POPE has recently had several epileptic fits. He is said to have been subject to such attacks from his youth, and much anxiety is felt on his account.

THE "HANGERS" of the forthcoming Royal Academy Exhibition will be Messrs. Maclellan, Sydney Cooper, and Calderon.

THE PERSONALTY of the late Earl of Rosse has been sworn under £60,000 in England, and in Ireland £20,000.

LORD RODEN has fallen suddenly ill, and apprehensions are entertained regarding his recovery.

PART OF THE RACECOURSE AT EPSOM is in the manor of Walton, which has just changed hands, and the new owners decline to permit racing on that portion.

THE MANCHESTER CONVICTS THOMPSON AND MULLADY, who were sentenced to death for the murder of Sergeant Brett, have been reprieved.

THE DOWAGER DUCHESS OF HAMILTON, Princess Marie of Baden-Baden, is dangerously ill at the family hotel in Paris. Besides the members of the family, several of her princely relations, amongst others Princess Liechtenstein and the Countess de Flanders, have proceeded to Paris, to be near her Grace.

SIR JOHN ROLT continues steadily to improve in health. Sir John is at present staying at Clifton, and there is every probability that in a short time the country will have the benefit of his experience as a member of her Majesty's Privy Council.

SALT LAKE LAW requires young men to marry at nineteen, or pay 300 dollars fine.

SIR RODERICK MURCHISON has been elected by the Academy of Sciences in Paris Foreign Member, in place of the late Professor Faraday. There are only eight such members; and the honour is regarded by men of science as the highest which a man of science can receive.

THE POPE HAS GIVEN A PRIVATE AUDIENCE to the American philanthropist, Mr. Peabody, and invited him to be seated—an honour which his Holiness very rarely accords in the Pontifical receptions. Pius IX. also gave his portrait to the kind-hearted citizen of the United States, with a Latin quotation, containing a eulogium on benevolence, written with his Holiness's own hand.

DR. FERAND, a French physician, has just succeeded in re-uniting the finger of a cook, which had been lopped off and thrown away. The severed part recovered both warmth and sensitiveness.

MR. EYRE CROWE has nearly finished a picture representing that after-scene of the execution of Mary Queen of Scots wherein the Sheriff of Northamptonshire showed the body of the Queen to the official surgeon.

THE TEXIER TRIAL in France has resulted in an acquittal of all the accused persons.

A NEW CLOTH FACTORY has within the last few days commenced operations at Geelong. It is the first factory of the kind established in Victoria. A paper-mill is now nearly completed on the banks of the Yarra, and will probably be in full working order in a few weeks.

KING THEODORE HAS JUST MADE A FRESH CAPTURE—that of the Austrian Commissioner at the Universal Exhibition, M. Schaffer. By way of turning his leisure time to account, this gentleman made a journey in Abyssinia; and, having imprudently approached too near the States of the Sovereign, was arrested and made trumpeter in a regiment of dragoons.

POLAND IS NO MORE. Russia has abolished even her local government, and, declaring her an integral part of the empire, has handed over the control of her concerns to the Imperial authorities.

SIR RICHARD A. GLASS has been appointed chairman of the Anglo-American Telegraph Company, in the place of the late Mr. Charles E. Stewart.

THE LONDON GENERAL OMNIBUS COMPANY have reduced their fares by the Favourite omnibuses from Holloway to the City. The charge is now fourpence from the Nag's Head, Holloway, to the Post Office or Bank. No reduction has been made in the fares between Holloway and Westminster.

AN ELECTRIC ORGAN has been placed in the church of Sumiswald, Canton of Berne.

AN AVALANCHE five or six miles in extent fell near the town of Chico, California, on the Pacific Railroad, recently. Six Chinamen were killed and seven locomotives were injured.

A "CLERICAL TAILOR" who has just opened an establishment near the Strand, advertises that he supplies customers not only with the articles which are usually connected with his trade, but with embroidery, prints, crucifixes, crosses, statuettes, religious books, wafer bread, incense, and altar candles.

M. LABLANCHE, a distinguished citizen of Lyons, died recently, and the Catholic clergymen refused to read the burial service because he was a Freemason. A Protestant clergyman, with more common-sense, was found to officiate.

GENERAL GARIBALDI has sent a letter from Caprera to the American Minister at Florence, in which he says he hears that Mr. Seward has included his (the General's) name among the agents of "the Great Republic." As he never had that honour, he begs the Minister to cause his name to be erased from the list.

THE LOCAL PREPARATIONS for the review of the volunteers at Portsmouth on Easter Monday appear to be progressing very favourably. Upwards of £1000 has been already subscribed to the general fund for meeting the usual incidental expenses.

A MEETING of the united executive committee for the relief of the exceptional distress in the east of London was held at the Mansion House on Monday. It was decided to adjourn *sine die*, and to pay over the unexpended balance of the money received in aid of the funds of the East-End Emigration Committee.

THE COUNCIL OF THE ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY have decided to commence forthwith a course of instruction in land-surveying, measuring, and ground-work engineering to the students at Chiswick under a skilful engineer. They have also decided to open a class for instruction in drawing, which shall be open to all on the payment of a small fee.

STEPHEN J. MEANY writes to a gentleman who defended him in Dublin to mention that he was, on the point of being released from prison through the clemency of the Government, and that, in pursuance of his engagements, under a conditional pardon, he was to sail from England on the 21st inst. and not to return.

FOUR TIVERTON TRADESMEN entered into sureties of £250 each to secure payment of the expenses of the petition to unseat the Hon. G. Denman. The petitioners failed, and the High Sheriff of Devon extracted the recognisances and placed the bailiffs in possession. The Hon. G. Denman has implored the Speaker "to abate as much of the penalty as is compatible with the most merciful vindication of the law."

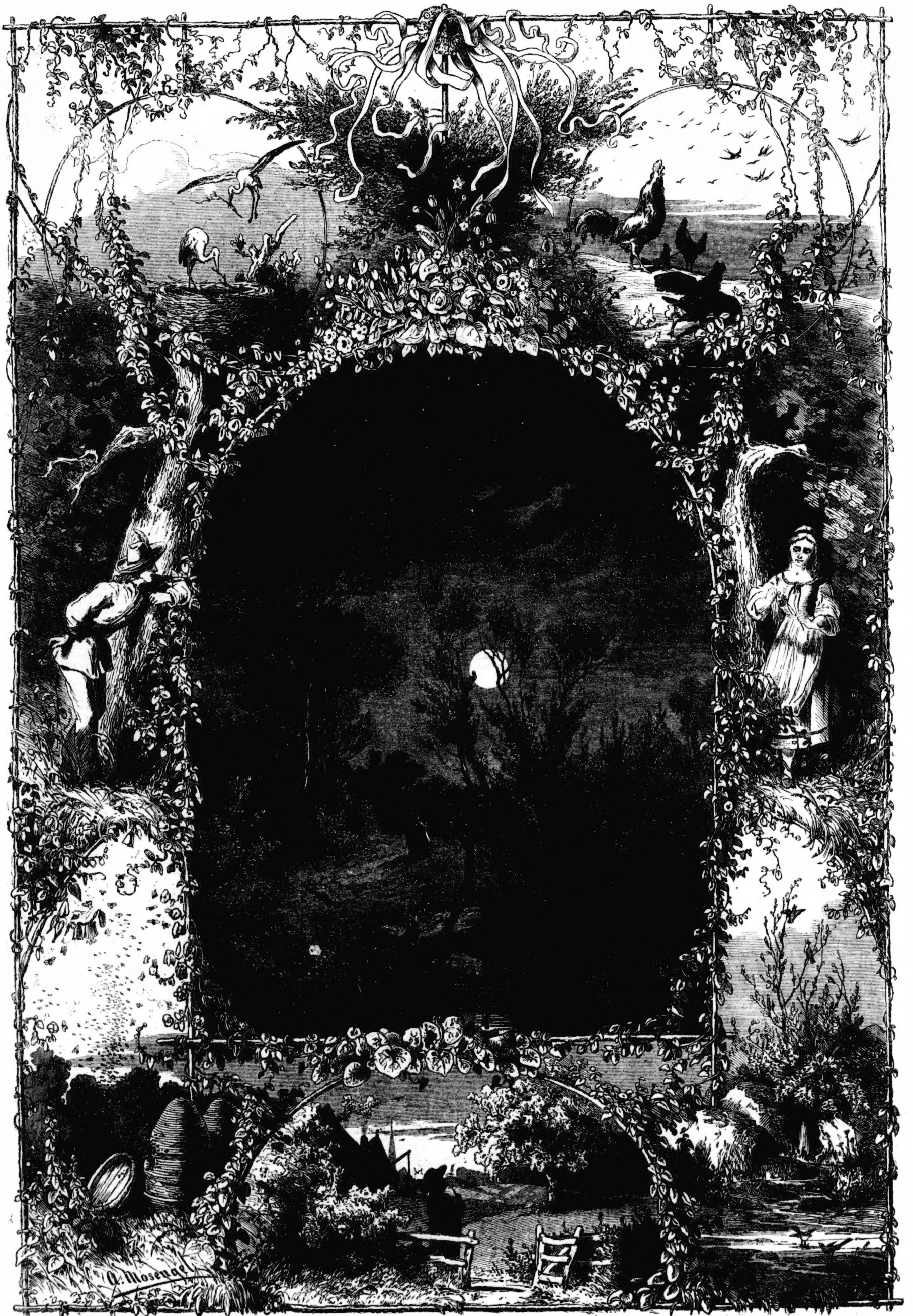
THE REMAINS OF DANIEL MANIN were conveyed by water, last Saturday evening, from the railway to the Church of San Zaccaro, at Venice, followed by state barges with representatives from the Italian Senate and Chamber of Deputies, the members of the Venetian Municipality, and foreign Commissioners. An immense number of gondolas also followed. The Grand Canal and all the boats in the procession were illuminated, forming a magnificent spectacle. The houses displayed mourning draperies.

MAJOR TENNANT is going out to India to observe the total eclipse of Aug. 18, with a special view to photography and polarisation; the cost of the expedition having been sanctioned by the Secretary of State for India. Major Tennant will be accompanied by three non-commissioned officers of the Royal Engineers, well exercised in photographic manipulation. The instruments will be set up at Guntoor or Masulipatam.

MR. GALT CAZALAT has invented an ingenious process for compressing molten steel, intended for guns, so effectually as to save all the labour of hammering. In the upper part of the mould into which the metal is run is an apparatus containing a small quantity of highly inflammable powder, which, in burning, generates gas in such quantity as to produce thereby in a very short time a pressure of ten atmospheres. This pressure expels the gases contained in the steel, and forces the metallic molecules into the closest union.

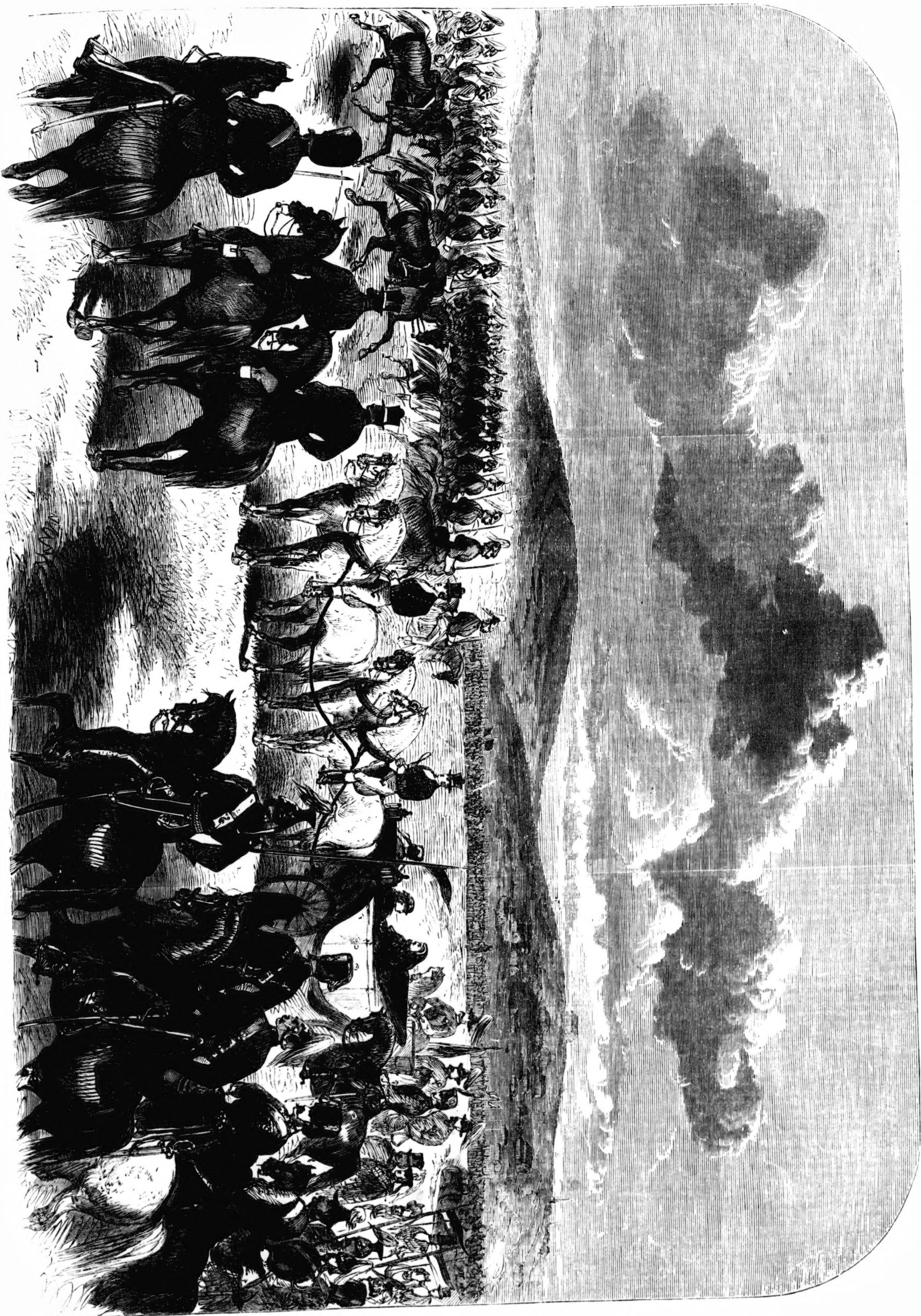
A CONSIDERABLE REDUCTION has taken place in the metropolis in the contract prices of granite, road materials, and masons' and paviours' work. The contracts taken by the vestry of St. Pancras for the year ensuing show a considerable fall in the value of materials as compared with those expiring, and the following reductions, by contract, have also taken place in wages:—Masons from 6s. 8d. to 6s. per day; paviours, 6s. to 5s. 6d.; hammermen, 4s. 6d. to 4s.; stone-dressers, 7s. to 6s.; labourers, 4s. 2d. to 2s. 6d.





"SPRING."—(FROM A PICTURE BY A. MOSENGEL.)





THE QUEEN AT ALDERSHOT: THE TROOPS PARADING BEFORE HER MAJESTY.



## THE QUEEN AT ALDERSHOTT.

On Thursday, the 19th inst., for the first time for two years past, and for the second time for more than six years, her Majesty paid a formal visit to the camp at Aldersholt. Her last visit was to present colours to the 31st Regiment, to which her Majesty, as Princess Victoria, had given colours many years before. On that occasion there was a good deal of ceremony, and the camp was full of troops, which gave materials for an imposing martial display, which were made the most of. On the late visit of the Queen no review was attempted—first, because her Majesty's visit was intended to be very brief; and, secondly, because the exigencies of Fenianism and other causes have thinned down the camp, so that its usual winter strength of 14,000 or 15,000 men has been reduced since last autumn till there are now little more, all told, than 7000 men at Aldersholt. Less than 5000 men were under arms on parade, for the duties connected with a fixed camp are as extensive as they are various; and camp guards, sentries, non-effectives, and men to keep the review-ground absorbed more than a quarter of all the force stationed at Aldersholt on that day.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, accompanied by Prince Teck and attended by the head-quarter staff, arrived early at Farnborough, where they were received by General Scarlett and his staff, and rode slowly over to the camp. The spot chosen by the Duke of Cambridge for the inspection of the troops was the long open parade-ground in the north camp, and to this towards noon the regiments from their different quarters came streaming on amid a clash of music almost as varied in tones as the uniforms were varied in their tints. The whole force was formed up in two double lines, each nearly half a mile long. On the right of the first line were the Royal Horse Artillery and the Royal Engineers, then the 51st Regiment, the 98th Regiment, the 2nd battalion of the 8th Regiment, with the 54th, 40th, 80th, and 43rd Regiments. The second line in rear was formed by the 1st Dragoon Guards, the 4th Dragoon Guards, two batteries of field artillery, the Pontoon and the Military Trains. Thus it will be seen that, though the force was small, it was complete in all the essentials of a little corps d'armée. Her Majesty came upon the ground soon after twelve, and her arrival was announced by a Royal salute fired from a battery stationed on the heights just beyond the north camp and above Cove-common. The Royal party had driven direct from Windsor, a distance of sixteen miles, till close upon the camp, when the ordinary closed carriages were changed for two open pony carriages, each drawn by four beautiful greys. Her Majesty looked very well. In the carriage with her were their Royal Highnesses Princesses Christian and Beatrice, and Prince Christian rode at the side of the carriage with the Duke of Cambridge and Prince Teck. In attendance on the Queen were Colonel De Ros, Colonel Du Plat, Colonel Gordon, and the ladies in waiting.

As the Queen entered the north parade the Royal salute was given, and the whole line presented arms and lowered colours with the precision of a machine, while the bands played the National Anthem. Her Majesty passed very slowly along the front line and then at once turned to her place in the centre of the north parade, at the saluting point. Past this the troops began to march. First came the horse artillery and cavalry, then the field batteries, then the engineers and infantry, the whole line being closed by the Pontoon and Military Trains. Again the regiments passed at a quick march, and afterwards the cavalry and horse artillery passed at a canter. The whole line then re-formed in the original position, and, advancing slowly, gave the Royal salute with magnificent effect. Long before this last evolution, however, keen cold rain had set in with some violence and much discomfort. The instant, therefore, that the final salute was given the troops were marched off to their quarters, and her Majesty drove straight to the Pavilion in the south camp, where she lunched, and afterwards drove out to see the library in the south camp, which was built by the late Prince Consort, and mainly through his enlightened munificence supplied with books. The Royal party then returned to Windsor.

## THE PRINCE OF WALES'S VISIT TO IRELAND.

It is considered not unlikely that the Princess of Wales will accompany the Prince, on his approaching visit to Ireland, an intimation to that effect having been received by the Municipal Council of Dublin. There is still doubt, however, on the point.

The programme for the installation of the Prince of Wales as a Knight of St. Patrick is so far determined upon that preparations are being actively made for the musical and other ceremonial features of the event. The changes to be effected in the interior arrangements of the cathedral will enable it to accommodate about 3000 spectators; but about five times the number have already applied for tickets of admission, and the task of selection will be one of difficulty. On the day of the installation the knights, with their esquires, will assemble within the castle precincts, in full costume; where a procession will be formed, which will proceed thence to the cathedral, over pretty much the same route of streets as was taken in 1821. The procession will be headed by a squadron of cavalry (probably of the 10th Hussars), after which will come the "state trumpets and drums, messengers, pursuivants; sergeants-at-arms, with their maces; Athlone pursuivants; the Knights of the Order of St. Patrick, in the order of juniority, with their esquires; his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales; the Lord Lieutenant, Grand Master of the order; Ulster king-of-arms, with his usher; the secretary, chancellor, and prelate of the order." The first proceeding, when the procession arrives at the cathedral, will be to constitute the chapter—the Lord Lieutenant taking his seat at the head of the table, as Grand Master; the knights sitting around, and their esquires behind them; the Prince, as the knight to be installed, standing at the table. From the chapter-room the Grand Master and knights companions will proceed to the choir, where, his Excellency taking his place upon the throne, the ceremonial will be completed by the singing of the "Te Deum," the investing of the Prince with his sword, collar, and mantle, and the conducting of him to his stall; after which the procession will leave the cathedral as it entered.

Besides the Castle and Mansion House festivities, during the Prince's visit there is to be a citizens' ball on a large scale, for the management of which an influential committee has been named. It will be held in the great hall of the Exhibition building; and as there is an idea that this occurrence may assist a project for a Government purchase of the premises as a "Royal Irish Art-Institute," the matter is being undertaken with all the more spirit. The Kildare-street Club also purpose inviting the Prince to a ball. Letters appear in the Dublin papers urging also that the opportunity will be favourable "for a movement in which men of all political opinions may join to interest his Royal Highness in establishing a Royal residence in Ireland." Since a hint was given that a possibility existed of the Princess of Wales accompanying the Prince, the Irish public appear to have assumed more than a probability of that double visit, and to be disposed to plan their preparations on such an assumption.

The Town Commissioners of Carlow have the credit of being the first of the Irish provincial bodies to make a move in connection with the approaching visit. They have prepared an address, and requested other corporations and townships in Ireland to co-operate with them in welcoming the Prince by sending deputations to Dublin on the occasion.

**TAXING CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.**—A deputation of more than ordinary weight and influence waited upon the Prime Minister, on Tuesday afternoon, at his official residence in Downing-street, on the subject of locally rating the various charitable institutions of the country. The Earl of Harrowby introduced the deputation as one which represented nearly all the charities in England and Scotland. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, as president of Christ's Hospital, first addressed the Premier; and was followed by Archbishop Manning, Messrs. Lingham, Hoare, Baines, M.P., &c. Mr. Disraeli promised that the question should be carefully considered by the Cabinet. Later in the afternoon another deputation waited upon Dr. Disraeli to press upon him, as head of the Government, the application made a few weeks ago to the Lord President of the Council for a grant in aid of the extension scheme of Owens College.

## THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

Who is to win the battle next week? There is as much excitement in Pall-mall and St. James's upon this question as there is annually upon the question, who will win the Derby, and almost as much uncertainty. The Conservatives are ready to bet any odds upon their favourite, Disraeli. The probabilities are, I think, the other way. But Disraeli, the betting men say, is in luck, and Gladstone is not. I, though, am not a betting man, nor do I allow favouritism to influence my mind; and as to luck, I think nothing of it—I do not believe in luck, nor in chance. I am a devout believer in law, and that if we could but know the operations of the laws of mind, as we know the laws of matter, we should be able to foretell the political events of next week as surely as astronomers can foretell the appearance of comets. The operations of the laws of mind, however, are too obscure and perplexing for us. Tell me, now, what will Sir Patrick M'Phin do? He lately got a knighthood from the Conservative Government; but, on the other hand, if he votes for the Government next week, he will infallibly lose his seat for Ballyshannon. Will gratitude for the honour of knighthood or the ambition of continuing to be a member of Parliament, be the stronger motive? There is Mr. Whalley, too. He hates Popery as he hates a certain personage whom we must not name; but then, if he should vote for the preservation of the Protestant Church, he will be rejected by Peterborough. Will he, for the sake of his Protestant principles, consent to political martyrdom? Then there is a certain Conservative member for an Irish county. He is a Conservative to the back-bone, and staunch for Disraeli, but three fourths of his constituents are Catholics. What will he do in this dilemma? His loyalty points this way, his ambition that. And these are examples of scores who are distracted and harassed by similar difficulties. There is my own member for Claysdale. He is a genuine, honest Liberal, and long since came to the conclusion that the Irish Church ought to be abolished, and he cheered Gladstone lustily when he tabled his resolutions; but since then he has had communications from Claysdale, which, as Hamlet says, have "sickled o'er the native hue of resolution with the pale cast of thought." "What am I to do?" said he to me. "Do!" said I. "Act like a man. And if Disraeli should dissolve, and the persons should turn you out, the new £12 voters shall bring you in again next year." But, nevertheless, he went away doubtful. Well, Mr. Editor, under such circumstances, how is it possible to tell what will happen next week? I can assure you that ever since Monday I have most anxiously pondered this question, and, further, have sedulously pumped all my political authorities, but I am sorry to say that I have not been able to form a decisive opinion. Nor will this appear wonderful when I tell you that the party whips are all at fault. I do not believe that Colonel Taylor or Mr. Glyn know more than I do. All I can venture to say is this, I incline to believe—I cannot speak more decisively—that the Government will be beaten.

And, if Government should be beaten, will Disraeli dissolve or resign? This is as difficult a question as the other. The Conservatives say he will dissolve; the Liberals say he will not. My own opinion inclines—on this question, too, I cannot speak decidedly—to the negative. I think that he will do neither. I imagine that, if he should be beaten, he will say, "Her Majesty's Government have, after anxious consideration, determined that this is not a question to be decided by the present constituencies, but by the constituencies constituted by the Reform Bill; and to them we shall refer it as soon as possible."

It is rumoured that in such case Gladstone will move a vote of want of confidence. But this I do not believe. Such a thought may have arisen in his mind, and he may try it on, as we say; but, from all I have heard, I think I may say decidedly that he will find that he will get little or no support from his party. He may beat the Government on this question of the Irish Church. I think he will. But on a subsequent motion of want of confidence I am all but sure he would be defeated.

## THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

THE idea of reviving "The Colleen Bawn" and "Arrah-na-Pogue," at the PRINCESS'S THEATRE, was a good one. Both these dramas have intrinsic merits of their own, independently of the talent of the principal performers in them. They were greatly successful when they were first produced; and their revival, with Mr. and Mrs. Boucicault in the most prominent parts, was attended, no doubt, with the substantial success that such excellent dramas, supported by such excellent artists, undoubtedly deserved. How far Mr. Vining has done wisely in reviving "Jeanie Deans," which was originally produced at Astley's, some four years since, remains to be proved; but I cannot help thinking that the result will show that the experiment was a dangerous one. "Jeanie Deans" has little or no literary merit of its own; it is, moreover, much too Scotch in tone to suit the taste of the majority of playgoers; and, in addition to these drawbacks, Mr. Boucicault plays an insignificant part, and makes his appearance once only in the course of the piece, and then merely for about twenty minutes. Mrs. Boucicault's Jeanie Deans is an exquisite piece of rustic, homely pathos. Mr. Boucicault's Counsel for the Defence is an admirable bit of character acting, and Mr. Maclean's David Deans is one of the best representations of a rugged Scotchman that I have ever seen upon the stage. It is equal to his performance in "The Man o' Airlie;" but I am afraid it is too genuine—too unlike the conventional Scotchman—to be generally appreciated. Mr. Leeson played Dumbiedikes with amusing stolidity; and a debutante, a Miss Litton, gave evidence of quiet, unobtrusive talent in the small but effective part of Edie Deans. The other parts are mere outlines, and are satisfactorily sketched out by the ladies and gentlemen to whom they are intrusted. But Mr. Forrester should be told that no Scotch advocate ever wore a moustache in the reign of George III. The scenery is, of course, excellent, although not new. The storming of the Tolbooth is capitally managed.

Mr. W. S. Gilbert—so favourably known to the lovers of burlesque by his previous productions, "Dulcamara," at the St. James's, and "La Vivandière," which is still running its anything but slow length along at the new Queen's Theatre—on Saturday last, at the NEW ROYALTY THEATRE, achieved another victory. This time Mr. Gilbert has chosen for his theme Balfe's favourite opera of "The Bohemian Girl," an excellent subject for burlesque treatment, and which indeed has already done service in that respect. Great expectations were raised as to the travesty that should succeed that singularly-successful success, "Black-Eyed Susan;" and I am glad to record that those great expectations were not disappointed. My limits will not permit me to follow the plot and incidents of "The Merry Zingara" further than to say that they adhere closely to the original opera; that the trio in the second scene, the burden of which is "Oh! such a little lady!" bids fair to rival the extraordinary popularity of "Pretty See-you-san;" and that Mr. Gilbert's fun is entirely his own. He is, as becomes a burlesque-writer, a determined iconoclast. He hates "humbug" of all sorts with a ferocity that is not of this planet. He loves to bowl over the shams, the unrealities, and the insincerities. He cuts at his pet dislikes with a keen pen and an honest hearty hatred. However, I will leave him to his laurels with one quotation as a specimen of his style. In the last act Devilshoof, the Gipsy Chief, discovers that the Gipsy Queen is not his relation in these words:—

My mother, sister, second cousin, aunt—  
My brother's wife; the niece of my papa;  
My uncle's sister, and my grandmamma;  
The only daughter of my sister's son,  
And all my female relatives in one;  
To specify them all I will not tarry—  
My everybody whom I mustn't marry!

Space only allows me a line of congratulation to Mr. Cuthbert for his very beautiful scenery, and I must be equally brief in my compliments to the costumier on the brilliant effect of his, or her, appropriate dresses. Miss Charlotte Saunders made her first appearance under the benignant reign of Queen Oliver the First as the Gipsy Queen, and acted with her accustomed intensity, appreciation, and power. Miss Fowler, Miss Collinson, and Miss Bella Goodall, were charming representations of the foppish Florestein, the romantic Thaddeus, and the faithful Max. Mr. Danvers was amusing

as Devilshoof; and as the bereaved father, Count Arnheim, Mr. Dewar was as comic as the majority of bereaved fathers in serious dramas—which is no small praise. As to the merits of Miss M. Oliver, of her looks, her acting, and her singing, as Arline, the merry zingara, I will say nothing; I will only advise my appreciative readers to go and see her at the earliest opportunity—that is, if they can find a vacant seat in the very little theatre in Dean-street.

## PARIS COSSIP.

PARIS, Wednesday. "WHEN are we going to have a coup de fusil in Paris?" I was asked to-day. "Whenever you like—and can," was the answer. "We must have a revolution," said my interlocutor; "we cannot do without it." Need I say he is a young man, who saw neither the days of July nor those of November, nor the still more sanguinary ones of June. The truth is that the French are a nation of exalted, and cannot live without excitement. An *echauffourée* at Toulouse, and another at Bordeaux, on the occasion of enrolling young men for the Garde Mobile, have turned the heads of the thoughtless; and the absurd conduct of the Government in denying, through the *Moniteur*, facts that are perfectly well known in connection with these disturbances, makes people think that there is a great deal more in the matter than is really the fact. The truth is that, though no enthusiasm is shown for the new law, neither is there any coldness—certainly no resistance; and the riots mentioned were caused more by the mode than by the object of the revision. The young men are taken and enrolled, in the first place, on the mere chance of their being found liable to serve, which is obviously unjust. The revision ought to be made complete at once, and those alone taken who cannot legally claim exemption. But tis the curse of the Emperor to be served by stupidly zealous people, and hence the popular effervescence in the towns mentioned.

A bill calling out 100,000 men of the contingent of 1867, to be incorporated in the regular army this year, is promulgated by the *Moniteur*.

What has Prince Napoleon been doing in Germany? The official prints deny a political mission; but really that circumstance was not wanting to make people believe that he had one. As a rule, whatever those organs deny is true. The foreign policy of the empire, it is remarked, has got into a bog of late years, and every step taken to extricate it only plunges it deeper in the mire. France is rebuffed everywhere, and at all times. After Sadowa, a rectification of frontiers was asked for: refused by Prussia. Luxembourg was demanded: France did not get it. The journey to Salzburg bore no fruit; Austria could not fight; M. de Moustier protested peaceful intentions; and Count de Bismarck, with a quiet chuckle, said he was glad to hear that the Emperor meant peace. Now, has Prince Napoleon's trip been more successful? We shall know, of course, in due time; but the mere fact of its being undertaken proves the uneasy feeling which besets this Government, in consequence of France having fallen to be a Power of little account in Europe. Peace is supposed to be safe for a while. Why? Because Prussia, digesting her enormous meal, does not want to fight; and France is not ready.

Eighty thousand pounds have been voted as of urgency for the relief of the starving Arabs under French rule in Algeria. There was a short debate, in the course of which it was officially stated that in the latter months of 1867 there were 89,000 deaths among the natives—of cholera, it is added, but I believe in reality of hunger. This very day the papers contain "favourable intelligence" from the colony. During the week between the 13th and 20th, no more than twenty-seven dead bodies were found on the public highways. "Let it not be said," wrote the Emperor to the Duke de Magenta, "that France should have to reproach herself with neglect of those placed under her charge." The figures I have mentioned are a striking commentary on that sentiment; but what can be expected in a country like Algeria, which, in the words of his Majesty himself, is at one and the same time "an Arab kingdom, a European settlement, and a French camp?"

The last grand dinner and concert of the season took place yesterday at the Tuileries. Everything was magnificent. The whole Imperial family, all the Ambassadors, the Ministers, the Marshals, and a great number of senators and deputies, were present. The Emperor was in plain evening dress, and the Empress in half-mourning. Her Majesty wore a magnificent necklace of diamonds and pearls, and a coronal of brilliants on the head. Talking of jewels, there is a piece of gossip going round to the effect that a lady, well known in Paris—elegant, young, handsome, and rich—has become the purchaser of a set, known as the "Diamonds of the Cross," for the trifling sum of £24,000 sterling. They belonged to a dispossessed "Royalty" who was hard up, and so have found their way into the possession of the wealthy Mme. Musard. The reflection is, that if diamonds can bring happiness, here is a truly happy woman.

There is a report that Mdlle. Nilsson is to marry Gustave Doré. Beautiful weather: everything out in bloom.

**THE COLLIERY STRIKE IN SOUTH DERBYSHIRE** has at length terminated, the men having been obliged to accept the masters' terms. They have only done this after a struggle which has extended over twelve months, and has been most disastrous in its effects upon them, the loss in wages alone being estimated at £25,000. In connection with the colliery strike near Wigan, an attempt—happily unsuccessful—has been made to blow up the house occupied by an obnoxious non-unionist, and in which he, his wife, and several children were sleeping. Some men who are believed to have been concerned in the outrage are in custody.

**THE CALEDONIAN SOCIETY.**—Last Saturday the Highland Society of London celebrated the anniversary of the Battle of Alexander, in which an unusual proportion of Caledonian regiments were present, and the Scottish hero Abercrombie lost his life. His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief, who occupied the chair, made an interesting speech in praise of Scottish valour; but the duty of returning thanks fell to the lot of an Irishman, the Marquis of Westmeath, the only surviving officer of the expedition to Egypt. The Highland sword dance and the warlike strains of the Earl of Fife's piper were amongst the characteristics of this national festival.

**A SERIOUS DIFFICULTY.**—There has been a serious complication at Orleans lately. Public utility has demanded the removal of certain earth wherein lie defunct Israelites. The Rabbi sternly declines to allow the removal to take place. He says it is against the Moslem law. He tells the municipal authorities that they do not think what confusion they may cause *au jour du jugement*. They promise, in reply, to take the utmost care, and to place the bones again in the ground in proper order. The Rabbi answers that it cannot be done; their utmost care will not be sufficient; they must infallibly create *des disputes au jour suprême*. If any bones should then be wanting, how, he argues, *compléter la résurrection*? The municipal authorities reply that the difficulty is conceivable if any of the large bones prove to be wanting, but against that ordinary care will guard. As for the smaller bones, they cannot suppose that much inconvenience would result from one or two of them being missing. Even while men are alive they suggest that some of them have to use false teeth, and that way out of the difficulty would always be available. The Rabbi remains firm, and the affair was not arranged when the last account left Orleans.

**THE UNIVERSITY TESTS BILL.**—The following is an appeal sent from four Baptist ministers of Cambridge to the Archbishop of Canterbury:—"We have observed an address to your Grace from the graduates of the University of Oxford in reference to the bill recently introduced into the House of Commons by Mr. Coleridge. As the authors of the address presume to define the relation of Nonconformists to that bill, we beg leave to inform your Grace that they had no authority to speak for us. The address assumes that 'Christian faith and Christian morals' will be banished from the Universities, or greatly diminished, if the said bill becomes law. If we believed that such consequences would ensue, we should, with the Oxford graduates, most strongly deprecate the change; but, being persuaded, for reasons given below, that directly the opposite result would follow, we beg to be heard. From the University of Oxford Nonconformists are, and have been, practically exiled. The address of the graduates is, therefore, the language of mere theorists. At Cambridge the number of Nonconformists in the University has been steadily increasing for the last twelve years, and has comprised two senior wranglers, one second, one fifth, one seventh, two other wranglers, two first-class classics, ten senior optimes, and one senior in the natural science tripos. The Nonconformists who have won honours, and those who have not, have been well-known among us, and we do not hesitate to assert that in moral and religious excellence they have been far above the average. Had the whole University been like them, it would have presented a scene of purity and piety, such as neither Oxford nor Cambridge has yet approached. We therefore ask your Grace to promote the religious interests of the universities by encouraging such men to enter them."



## THE ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSION.

THE Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England have to state in their twentieth report, just issued, that they shall in the present year complete the scheme which, in their report of 1851, they proposed to accomplish within five years. Every living with less income than £300 a year which then existed, and contained, according to the Census of 1861, a population of 4000 persons, will on March 1, 1869, have had its income raised to £300 a year, except those cases in private patronage where the one half of the augmentation which the patrons were required to provide from non-ecclesiastical sources has not been forthcoming. By the same date the local claims arising upon the estates of the Archbishopric of York and of the Bishops of Durham, Peterborough, Lincoln, Norwich, and Carlisle, and upon the estates of the Chapters of York, Peterborough, Carlisle, Chichester, Chester, Gloucester, and Canterbury, will have been considered by the Board. In their report of 1853 the Commissioners referred to an arrangement which had been entered into with the Dean and Chapter of York whereby the capitular estates (subject to subsisting leases) had become vested in the Commissioners, and in lieu thereof the Dean and Chapter were to receive an annuity until the Commissioners should restore to them real estates in possession calculated to produce an income equal to such annuity; and it was estimated that the arrangement would at a future date yield a considerable surplus for the augmentation of small livings. At the close of 1852 the Chapter of Carlisle effected a similar commutation. In 1855 the Cathedral Commission advised that all the improved revenue derived from the better management of capitular property should be appropriated to the augmentation of capitular incomes and to the improvement of cathedral institutions. In 1856 a Committee of the House of Commons sat to consider the proceedings of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, and in their third report set out the details of the York Chapter commutation, and observe, "Such agreements tend to facilitate enfranchisement, and to provide funds for the endowment of poor livings, as well as to afford a ready means of providing estates in possession for the ecclesiastical corporations." In the year 1854 the Chapters of Peterborough and Chichester, in 1855 the Chapter of Gloucester, in 1856 St. Asaph, in 1857 Worcester, in 1860 Chichester, in 1861 Winchester and Salisbury, in 1862 Bristol, Canterbury, and Exeter, in 1865 Wells, Rochester, and St. David's, and in 1867 the Chapters of Llandaff and Windsor effected similar commutations of their capitular estates. All these arrangements have been successively sanctioned by Orders in Council. Commutations have thus been effected with no fewer than eighteen Chapters. Under these commutations the Chapters gave up their ancient estates in consideration of annual money payments to be received by them, pending their re-endowment with real estates in possession; and in 1862 the permanent estate of the Chapter of York, in 1863 that of Peterborough, in 1865 those of Carlisle and Chichester, in 1866 those of Chester, Gloucester, and Canterbury, and in 1867 that of Winchester, were re-assigned. As a consequence the commissioners, in the period between 1861 and 1868, considered the local claims of the parochial cures upon the estates of the Chapters of York, Peterborough, Carlisle, and Chichester, and, so far as the value of the property would permit, the requisite grants were made to such parochial cures; the like claims upon the estates of Chester, Gloucester, and Canterbury Chapters should be considered in the course of the present year. The present position is that the rearrangement of the estates of eight Chapters has been completed, and that in seven of these eight cases the local claims of the places in which their estates were situate have been, or forthwith should be, under consideration; that with respect to ten other Chapters the re-endowments are in progress; and that with respect to two more Chapters—viz., Westminster and Norwich—terms of commutation have been agreed upon. Of the remaining Chapters, Bangor has no estate, Ripon has very little, and has ceased to renew beneficial leases, and Manchester is subject to special legislation; so that the six Chapters of Durham, Ely, Hereford, Lichfield, Lincoln and St. Paul's are all that continue to manage the ancient capitular properties upon the system of renewing leases in consideration of the payment of fines. The Judicial Committee has recently had under consideration the schemes for ratifying the commutations agreed to by the Chapters of Westminster and Norwich; and, in the event of its being decided that these schemes are *ultra vires*, legislative sanction would be required to the commutations which have been already effected, and to others of a like character that have been or may be agreed upon between the remaining Chapters and the Board. The Commissioners contemplate making in the year commencing March 1, 1869, grants equivalent to a capital sum of not less than £300,000. They have not at present determined to what precise objects these grants shall be directed, except that they have resolved to make grants equivalent to a capital sum of £100,000 to meet benefactions of at least equal amount. The local claims are a charge imposed by Act of Parliament, and must annually occupy a large portion of the amount at the disposal of the Commissioners; the claims of cathedral officers arise also under the provisions of an Act of Parliament, and are still under the Commissioners' consideration; while to extend the limit of unconditional augmentations from populations of 4000 to those of lower amount, to subdivide cures by the endowment of new churches, or to provide stipends for assistant curates, in parishes with very large populations, are different methods of carrying into effect the object of relieving the more urgent cases of spiritual destitution; but it is obvious that the limited means now available will not enable the Commissioners to enter upon all these various important operations. Under these circumstances, the Commissioners defer until a later period of the year any decision as to the precise modes in which the remaining portion of the grants for the year 1869 shall be distributed. For the current year the Commissioners have determined—1. To meet benefactions by grants to the amount in capital value of £150,000. 2. To consider the local claims arising in respect to the estates of Chester, Gloucester, and Canterbury Chapters. 3. To augment unconditionally to £300 a year the income of every benefice in public patronage the population of which was by the Census of 1861 not less than 4000 persons. 4. To augment the income of every benefice in private patronage having a like population to a like amount of £300, on condition that one half of the sum required to effect such augmentation be provided from non-ecclesiastical sources. 5. To appropriate the sum of £3000 a year in perpetuity to the endowment with £200 a year of new churches in public patronage to which districts shall have been legally assigned, containing in each case a population of 4000 persons, and to the endowment with £100 a year of new churches in private patronage having districts legally assigned to them, containing in each case a like population, on condition that an endowment of equal value be provided from non-ecclesiastical sources. The grants to be thus made during the current year will be of the capital value of £700,000.

A SNUG BERTH.—One of the Government inspectors of schools gives an account of one grammar school in England where there is an income for the master of £100 a year, and only one scholar. He adds:—"Before leaving the place I ventured, as a matter of curiosity, to ask the master upon what pension he would be willing to retire. 'I don't want to retire at all,' said he. 'But,' said I, 'you have only one scholar.' To which he made the astounding reply, 'And I don't want any more; why should I? I am an old man. This is a good reason to give you, and the place is better than a curacy. I will not retire if I can help it, and certainly not for less than the full salary; why should I?'"

CORRUPTION AT ELECTIONS.—The bill (as amended in Committee) for amending the laws relating to election petitions, and providing more effectually for the prevention of corrupt practices at elections, has been reprinted. After providing for matters in connection with the presentation of petitions to Parliament in reference to elections, the bill states that the trial of such petitions shall be conducted by one or two of the Judges of the superior courts of common law, not members of the House of Lords. These Judges shall be styled "the honorary Justices of the Court of Common Pleas;" shall have the same rank, salary, pension, &c., as if they had continued to be ordinary Justices; and shall not be required to perform any other duties than those stated in the bill. The bill then lays down rules for the trial of petitions. The report of the Judges on any petition is to be treated exactly as a report of a Parliamentary Election Committee; and be submitted to the House of Commons.

## STATISTICS OF THE IRISH CHURCH.

THE relative numbers of the principal religious bodies in Ireland, according to the Census returns of 1861, were as follow:—Members of the Established Church, 693,357, or 11.9 per cent of the total population; Roman Catholics, 4,505,265, or 77.7 per cent; Presbyterians, 523,291, or 9.0 per cent; Methodists, 45,399, or 0.8 per cent; Independents, 4532; Baptists, 1237; Quakers, 3695, or 0.1 per cent; persons returned under all other denominations, 18,798, or 0.3 per cent, exclusive of 393 Jews. The province of Ulster contained the largest number of persons in communion with the Established Church, the members of which amounted to 391,315, or 20.4 per cent of the population of that province. In Leinster the Established Church had 189,587 adherents, or 12.39 per cent of the population; in Munster they numbered 80,860, or 5.3 per cent; and in Connaught, where the members of the Established Church were fewest absolutely and relatively to population, they amounted to 40,595, or 4.41 per cent. The number of members of the Established Church in proportion to population was greatest in the county of Fermanagh—40,608, or 38.4 per cent. The suburbs of the city of Dublin follow, with 17,668, or 35 per cent; and the county of Armagh, with 58,735, or 30.9 per cent. In the counties of Down and Tyrone respectively the numbers were 60,905 and 52,240, or 20.3 and 21.9 per cent. In the town of Belfast they were 29,832, or 24.7 per cent. In the counties of Dublin (exclusive of the suburbs of the city), Wicklow, Antrim, and Londonderry, in the county of the town of Carrickfergus, and in the city of Dublin, the members of the Established Church were more than 15 and under 20 per cent. In the King's and Queen's Counties, and in the counties of Cavan, Carlow, Kildare, Donegal, and Monaghan, and in the city of Cork, their percentage was over 10 and under 15. In the counties of Longford, Louth, Meath, Westmeath, Wexford, Cork (East and West Ridings), Tipperary (North Riding), Leitrim, and Sligo, in the town of Drogheda, and cities of Kilkenny, Limerick, and Waterford, Protestants of the Established Church were over 5 and under 10 per cent. In the counties of Kilkenny, Limerick, Tipperary (South Riding), Kerry, and Roscommon, and in the town of Galway, the percentages exceeded 3 and were under 5. In the counties of Waterford, Galway, and Mayo they exceeded 2 and were under 3; and in the county of Clare the members of the Established Church formed only 2 per cent of its population. It is noteworthy that while the members of the Irish Church did not constitute a majority or the principal section of the population in any of the counties or towns enumerated above, yet in the county of the town of Carrickfergus they formed a majority compared with the Roman Catholics, the proportional numbers being 19.3 for the Established Church and 11.1 for Roman Catholics, while the Presbyterians were 59.2 per cent. In the counties of Antrim and Down, the county of the town of Carrickfergus, and the town of Belfast, the Roman Catholics were outnumbered by the Presbyterians. Of the entire population of the thirty-three Parliamentary boroughs (797,467) the number belonging to the Established Church was 132,120, or 16.6 per cent. In the boroughs of Carrickfergus and Coleraine the members of the Irish Church were in a majority as regards Roman Catholics; and in the borough of Lisburn they were the largest section. Turning to the towns of Ireland, it appears that in Drogheda (in the county of Down), Lurgan, and Portlough, (in the county of Armagh), Portobello (in the suburbs of Dublin), and Lisburn (in the counties of Antrim and Down), the members of the Established Church formed the largest section of the population; but nowhere did they constitute an absolute majority over all denominations except in the town of Portobello, which included 776 military of the Established Church resident in the barracks. In the twenty-seven years, 1831 to 1861, the population of Ireland had decreased 2,155,133; the Roman Catholic population had fallen off by as many as 1,930,795, or 30 per cent, and the Protestant by 221,731, or 11.8 per cent. The decrease in the Established Church was 159,803, or 18.7 per cent. Dividing the population of Ireland into two grand classes, Protestant and Roman Catholic, it appears that the former amounted to 1,289,206, or 22.23 per cent, while the latter amounted to 4,505,265, or 77.69 per cent. The proportional number of Protestants and Roman Catholics respectively in each province was 14.0 and 85.9 in Leinster, 6.07 and 93.8 in Munster, 49.5 and 50.5 in Ulster, and 5.1 and 94.8 in Connaught.

ABOUT 200 OXEN were collected on the fair field at Marcell (Saône-et-Loire) last market day, when suddenly some of them became furiously excited, and broke their fastenings. The vertigo rapidly spread amongst the others, and at last getting free, the whole body charged right through the village, overthrowing everything and everybody they met. Fifteen persons are said to have been killed, and thirty wounded.

INTENDED EXHIBITION AT ABERDEEN.—It is proposed to have an arts and manufactures exhibition at Aberdeen next year. The exhibition will consist of two branches—one an art collection, including art manufactures; the other industrial, including materials and machinery as well as manufactures. It is intended that the whole collection exhibited shall be drawn from the northern counties of Scotland, except in respect to the works of native artists and the products of native workmen's skill or ingenuity, which will be sought for wherever they can be procured. The line of division, marking the northern counties of Scotland, may not be very strictly adhered to, but it is generally understood to be the river Tay. The exhibition will thus be strictly a representative provincial one; and whilst this plan in some respects limits the extent and importance of the collection, on the other hand it will attach to it a special interest. The promoters, at the same time, feel confident that the north of Scotland will not be found deficient in native talent, whether in art or mechanical skill. And some branches of industry, such as granite cutting and polishing, are almost peculiar to the district, whilst in others, such as shipbuilding, special excellence has been attained. The Queen has consented to patronise the undertaking. The Prince of Wales allows himself to be named president, and the list of its supporters already includes nearly all the nobility and prominent men of all classes in the north of Scotland. It is contemplated that the exhibition shall take place in the months of July, August, and September, 1869, being the time of year during which the north of Scotland is thronged with strangers from the south, and when most of the proprietors are at home. At that season also excursions might be expected to be made from populous places at a distance, partly attracted by such an object of interest.

THE POOR LAWS.—The bill presented to the House of Lords by the Earl of Devon—the object of which is to make further amendments in the laws relating to the relief of the poor—proposes to confer upon the Poor-Law Board the powers contained in the 32nd section of the Poor-Law Amendment Act, 1834, with respect to any union without the concurrence of the majority of not less than two-thirds of the guardians, as is mentioned in that section. The board may add any parish the population of which does not exceed 300 to some adjoining parish, for the purpose of the election of guardians, and may appoint any officer of the union if the guardians fail to make such an appointment within twenty-one days after the receipt of a requisition from the Poor-Law Board in that behalf. The board may also appoint a competent person to act as visitor, the salary to be paid by the guardians; and may also order drainage works, furniture, surgical or other appliances that may be considered necessary for any workhouse. The provisions contained in the Poor-Law Amendment Act, 1845, as amended and extended by subsequent Acts which relate to the formation of school districts, shall be extended and made applicable to the combination of unions and parishes out of the metropolis into districts for the reception and relief of imbecile and insane persons; and the guardians may, with the consent of the Poor-Law Board, pay the costs of idiots sent to asylums for patients of that kind. The consent of a majority of the guardians is to be sufficient for the formation of a school district; and after Sept. 29 next all charges which according to the Act of 1844 would have been made upon the common fund of any district formed under this Act is to be borne by the several unions or parishes comprised in the district. Workhouse masters are to keep separate registers of the religious creeds of the inmates; and in the case of children under fourteen years of age entries are to be made of the religious creed of the parents, unless it be shown that baptism has taken place according to the forms of some other religion. Every inmate for whom no religious service according to his own creed is provided in the workhouse will be enabled, if this bill pass into law, to go to his own place of worship on a Sunday, or any other day required by his religion to be kept sacred. So much of the Poor-Law Amendment Act, 1864, as provides for the election of district auditors is to be repealed, and the Poor-Law Board is to have the appointment of those officers in its own hands. Provision is made for the incorporation of certain extra-parochial places; and the bill also proposes that where appeals are brought at the same time against the poor rates of several parishes in adjoining unions, and in which some common principle appears to be involved, the guardians of those unions may combine to resist them and share the costs. The bill also contains clauses relating to the maintenance of wives and children and the collection of rates, and proposes to repeal the penalty imposed on churchwardens and overseers for supplying materials or provisions for the use of any workhouse.

## THE THAMES EMBANKMENT.

IN a leading article, on Wednesday, the *Times* announced that the portion of the Thames Embankment now finished was shortly to be opened for the use of the public, in accordance with the suggestion mentioned by us last week. We hope this is true; but the statement is hardly corroborated by the state in which the works were on the same day. On this subject the *Express* says:—

The only part of the Thames Embankment which can really be spoken of as "completed" is that lying east of Somerset House. Here, though the wall is unfinished, the ground between it and the houses has been levelled, and could be opened for traffic at once. The visitor to the Temple Gardens, or to some of the waterside streets running down from East Strand, finds huge hoardings and unfinished masonry impede his view; but a closer inspection shows him that the space enclosed is level as a grass plot, and that nothing remains but the large and ugly wooden sheds planted at right angles across the roadway to prevent its being used forthwith. But this is comparatively unimportant, and the view westward from Waterloo Bridge tells a very different story. At the ordinary rate of contractors' progress, a month must elapse before that wild chaos can be subdued. The iron rails of three separate tramways intersect it, along which small locomotives and "trams" have been plodding their busy way. Very few people seem to be at work, and the whole place seems terribly deserted and desolate. At noon on Wednesday the constant chip-chip of the stonemason's hammer could be heard, however, above the din of the streets, and a railway truck full of bricks stood ready for use in what will be the new thoroughfare. The ground, save where the little tramways run, is full of inequalities, and cranes and derrick machinery are plentifully dotted along its surface. Vast mounds, like waves of earth and rubbish, rise incessantly where convenience demands a level; while holes and valleys correspondingly deep assert themselves like candid pitfalls to the looker-on. The blocks of timber stream carelessly about and across these undulations, and which look precisely as if they had been washed ashore and there left, would make ruffs for an army; while the temporary structures, the wooden bridges to the steamboat wharves, the huts for workmen, the old iron, and the upright beams so fixed as to represent an ancient gallows-tree, present formidable obstacles to the explorer. Some deep and heavy ruts in the dry mud by Waterloo Bridge show that carts and wagons can be driven up it, but we venture to say that nothing with springs would survive the perilous course from Westminster. Nor, judging from what we saw, are proper efforts being made to smooth the way. Nothing was being cleared up; no one was constructing a road; the signs of active life were absent. Such men as were at work were engaged rather languidly upon the stone, and the future thoroughfare looked as neglected and forgotten as it has done for months past. Let the reader take a shipbuilder's lumber-yard, a stonemason's quarry, some pit tramways, an outdoor hospital for incurable old stores, deserted gravel-pits not yet beautified by growing grass, and mix them together in incomprehensible confusion, and he will see the greater portion of the Thames Embankment as it is. To speak of a roadway through and upon this being opened "forthwith" is to assume the aid of magic or of infinitely more energy and enterprise than has yet been shown; and, however excellent may be the intentions of the Board of Works, unless the contractors are stimulated beyond all precedent, we despair of seeing the really valuable part of the new thoroughfare in use until long after the present Session has expired.

## ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

THERE was a large attendance of Fellows and visitors at the meeting of the Royal Geographical Society, on Monday night, to hear read Captain Montgomerie's report "On a Pundit's Journey to Lhasa and the Source of the Brahmaputra." The Prince of Wales and suite were present, and remained to the end of the discussion which followed the reading of the somewhat lengthened paper. The president in his opening remarks expressed his sincere gratification that their Vice-Patron the Prince of Wales had been pleased to honour them with his presence. As a veteran in the pursuit of science he well remembered what real interest the lamented Prince Consort took in attending scientific meetings, and how justly he appreciated the importance of the discussions which arose at them. It was most gratifying, therefore, to find the Prince of Wales treading in the footsteps of his illustrious father. The presence of his Royal Highness at one of their ordinary meetings was not inappropriate, inasmuch as he had himself travelled more extensively than any former heir to the Crown of England, and they might feel certain that he had formed a high estimate of that predominant feature in our national character, the keen desire to explore distant lands. As geographers, they might feel proud that another son of our beloved Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, already enrolled as one of their honorary members, was making the grand tour of the British colonies, and would have seen, when he happily returned, more of the earth's surface than the great majority of practised travellers. The report of Captain Montgomerie, together with extracts from the pundit's own diary, were then read by the secretary, Mr. R. H. Major. A discussion followed, in which the president, Dr. Thomson, Dr. Campbell, Lord Strangford, Sir Henry Rawlinson, M.P., and Mr. T. Saunders, took part. The speakers generally testified to the value of the pundit's explorations. Sir Henry Rawlinson said that from a very early period of our Indian history Englishmen had been aware of the value of native assistance in various ways; but it had been reserved for Captain Montgomerie to utilise the native element in the direction of scientific exploration. By such means the neighbourhood of our whole northern frontier may soon be surveyed, and geographical problems solved which would have long remained mysteries without such aid. He had sometimes heard the utility of such undertakings questioned, and the dangers incurred stigmatised as an unnecessary risk of life for the gratification of a mere idle curiosity; but he protested against such short-sighted views. Geographical exploration, which it was the function of this society to encourage, tended to the increase of knowledge and enlightenment, and had, moreover, a tangible purpose in the extension of civilisation and commerce. He gave various details of trade routes in Central Asia, some of which are at present very circuitous, and showed how the surveys of the pundit might lead to the diversion of the lines of trade and their extension in new directions.

THE GOVERNORS OF GUY'S HOSPITAL have just been presented with ten pictures by Mr. John Absolon, painted expressly by him for the decoration of the sick-wards. These are chiefly enlarged duplicates of the artist's previous works, painted in pure water colours, mixed with a powerful preservative material. The pictures average 8 ft. by 7 ft. each. They will be exhibited at the Gallery of the Institute of Painters in Water Colours, 63, Pall-mall, for a fortnight.

NEWPORT MARKET REFUGE AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL.—On Tuesday Mr. Beresford Hope, M.P., presided at the annual meeting of the friends of this institution. There was a very large attendance of ladies and gentlemen, and amongst those present were Lord Elliot, Admiral Ryder, Mr. Melly, M.P., &c. From the annual report it appeared that the institution had two distinct branches, one a refuge for persons out of work, and the other an industrial school. With reference to the first of these objects, the report stated that during the year 1867, 14,919 night lodgings were given, and 34,146 rations, consisting of eight ounces of bread and a pint of coffee night and morning, were issued. The great object of the refuge was, by affording shelter and food, to enable working men and women to tide over the trying interval that often elapses when one piece of work is ended and another not yet obtained. Upwards of 500 men and women had been reinstated in various grades of employment during the year direct from the refuge, and many cases had been passed on to the Council of the House of Charity in Greek-street, Soho, whose unfailing readiness to receive and assist in providing for every case sent them called for the special thanks of the committee of this institution. Thousands of poor people flocked yearly to London from the country parishes of England and Scotland, in the conviction that they could obtain there ample employment; but before long they generally found themselves strangers and destitute in a workhouse or a refuge. The very large proportion of rural distress relieved by this charity during the year, and amongst those present were Lord Elliot, Admiral Ryder, Mr. Melly, M.P., &c. From the annual report it appeared that the institution had two distinct branches, one a refuge for persons out of work, and the other an industrial school. With reference to the first of these objects, the report stated that during the year 1867, 14,919 night lodgings were given, and 34,146 rations, consisting of eight ounces of bread and a pint of coffee night and morning, were issued. The great object of the refuge was, by affording shelter and food, to enable working men and women to tide over the trying interval that often elapses when one piece of work is ended and another not yet obtained. Upwards of 500 men and women had been reinstated in various grades of employment during the year direct from the refuge, and many cases had been passed on to the Council of the House of Charity in Greek-street, Soho, whose unfailing readiness to receive and assist in providing for every case sent them called for the special thanks of the committee of this institution. Thousands of poor people flocked yearly to London from the country parishes of England and Scotland, in the conviction that they could obtain there ample employment; but before long they generally found themselves strangers and destitute in a workhouse or a refuge. The very large proportion of rural distress relieved by this charity during the year, and amongst those present were Lord Elliot, Admiral Ryder, Mr. Melly, M.P., &c. From the annual report it appeared that the institution had two distinct branches, one a refuge for persons out of work, and the other an industrial school. With reference to the first of these objects, the report stated that during the year 1867, 14,919 night lodgings were given, and 34,146 rations, consisting of eight ounces of bread and a pint of coffee night and morning, were issued. The great object of the refuge was, by affording shelter and food, to enable working men and women to tide over the trying interval that often elapses when one piece of work is ended and another not yet obtained. Upwards of 500 men and women had been reinstated in various grades of employment during the year direct from the refuge, and many cases had been passed on to the Council of the House of Charity in Greek-street, Soho, whose unfailing readiness to receive and assist in providing for every case sent them called for the special thanks of the committee of this institution. Thousands of poor people flocked yearly to London from the country parishes of England and Scotland, in the conviction that they could obtain there ample employment; but before long they generally found themselves strangers and destitute in a workhouse or a refuge. The very large proportion of rural distress relieved by this charity during the year, and amongst those present were Lord Elliot, Admiral Ryder, Mr. Melly, M.P., &c. From the annual report it appeared that the institution had two distinct branches, one a refuge for persons out of work, and the other an industrial school. With reference to the first of these objects, the report stated that during the year 1867, 14,919 night lodgings were given, and 34,146 rations, consisting of eight ounces of bread and a pint of coffee night and morning, were issued. The great object of the refuge was, by affording shelter and food, to enable working men and women to tide over the trying interval that often elapses when one piece of work is ended and another not yet obtained. Upwards of 500 men and women had been reinstated in various grades of employment during the year direct from the refuge, and many cases had been passed on to the Council of the House of Charity in Greek-street, Soho, whose unfailing readiness to receive and assist in providing for every case sent them called for the special thanks of the committee of this institution. Thousands of poor people flocked yearly to London from the country parishes of England and Scotland, in the conviction that they could obtain there ample employment; but before long they generally found themselves strangers and destitute in a workhouse or a refuge. The very large proportion of rural distress relieved by this charity during the year, and amongst those present were Lord Elliot, Admiral Ryder, Mr. Melly, M.P., &c. From the annual report it appeared that the institution had two distinct branches, one a refuge for persons out of work, and the other an industrial school. With reference to the first of these objects, the report stated that during the year 1867, 14,919 night lodgings were given, and 34,146 rations, consisting of eight ounces of bread and a pint of coffee night and morning, were issued. The great object of the refuge was, by affording shelter and food, to enable working men and women to tide over the trying interval that often elapses when one piece of work is ended and another not yet obtained. Upwards of 500 men and women had been reinstated in various grades of employment during the year direct from the refuge, and many cases had been passed on to the Council of the House of Charity in Greek-street, Soho, whose unfailing readiness to receive and assist in providing for every case sent them called for the special thanks of the committee of this institution. Thousands of poor people flocked yearly to London from the country parishes of England and Scotland, in the conviction that they could obtain there ample employment; but before long they generally found themselves strangers and destitute in a workhouse or a refuge. The very large proportion of rural distress relieved by this charity during the year, and amongst those present were Lord Elliot, Admiral Ryder, Mr. Melly, M.P., &c. From the annual report it appeared that the institution had two distinct branches, one a refuge for persons out of work, and the other an industrial school. With reference to the first of these objects, the report stated that during the year 1867, 14,919 night lodgings were given, and 34,146 rations, consisting of eight ounces of bread and a pint of coffee night and morning, were issued. The great object of the refuge was, by affording shelter and food, to enable working men and women to tide over the trying interval that often elapses when one piece of work is ended and another not yet obtained. Upwards of 500 men and women had been reinstated in various grades of employment during the year direct from the refuge, and many cases had been passed on to the Council of the House of Charity in Greek-street, Soho, whose unfailing readiness to receive and assist in providing for every case sent them called for the special thanks of the committee of this institution. Thousands of poor people flocked yearly to London from the country parishes of England and Scotland, in the conviction that they could obtain there ample employment; but before long they generally found themselves strangers and destitute in a workhouse or a refuge. The very large proportion of rural distress relieved by this charity during the year, and amongst those present were Lord Elliot, Admiral Ryder, Mr. Melly, M.P., &c. From the annual report it appeared that the institution had two distinct branches, one a refuge for persons out of work, and the other an industrial school. With reference to the first of these objects, the report stated that during the year 1867, 14,919 night lodgings were given, and 34,146 rations, consisting of eight ounces of bread and a pint of coffee night and morning, were issued. The great object of the refuge was, by affording shelter and food, to enable working men and women to tide over the trying interval that often elapses when one piece of work is ended and another not yet obtained. Upwards of 500 men and women had been reinstated in various grades of employment during the year direct from the refuge, and many cases had been passed on to the Council of the House of Charity in Greek-street, Soho, whose unfailing readiness to receive and assist in providing for every case sent them called for the special thanks of the committee of this institution. Thousands of poor people flocked yearly to London from the country parishes of England and Scotland, in the conviction that they could obtain there ample employment; but before long they generally found themselves strangers and destitute in a workhouse or a refuge. The very large proportion of rural distress relieved by this charity during the year, and amongst those present were Lord Elliot, Admiral Ryder, Mr. Melly, M.P., &c. From the annual report it appeared that the institution had two distinct branches, one a refuge for persons out of work, and the other an industrial school. With reference to the first of these objects, the report stated that during the year 1867, 14,919 night lodgings were given, and 34,146 rations, consisting of eight ounces of bread and a pint of coffee night and morning, were issued. The great object of the refuge was, by affording shelter and food, to enable working men and women to tide over the trying interval that often elapses when one piece of work is ended and another not yet obtained. Upwards of 500 men and women had been reinstated in various grades of employment during the year direct from the refuge, and many cases had been passed on to the Council of the House of Charity in Greek-street, Soho, whose unfailing readiness to receive and assist in providing for every case sent them called for the special thanks of the committee of this institution. Thousands of poor people flocked yearly to London from the country parishes of England and Scotland, in the conviction that they could obtain there ample employment; but before long they generally found themselves strangers and destitute in a workhouse or a refuge. The very large proportion of rural distress relieved by this charity during the year, and amongst those present were Lord Elliot, Admiral Ryder, Mr. Melly, M.P., &c. From the annual report it appeared that the institution had two distinct branches, one a refuge for persons out of work, and the other an industrial school. With reference to the first of these objects, the report stated that during the year 1867, 14,919 night lodgings were given, and 34,146 rations, consisting of eight ounces of bread and a pint of coffee night and morning, were issued. The great object of the refuge was, by affording shelter and food, to enable working men and women to tide over the trying interval that often elapses when one piece of work is ended and another not yet obtained. Upwards of 500 men and women had been reinstated in various grades of employment during the year direct from the refuge, and many cases had been passed on to the Council of the House of Charity in Greek-street, Soho, whose unfailing readiness to receive and assist in providing for every case sent them called for the special thanks of the committee of this institution. Thousands of poor people flocked yearly to London from the country parishes of England and Scotland, in the conviction that they could obtain there ample employment; but before long they generally found themselves strangers and destitute in a workhouse or a refuge. The very large proportion of rural distress relieved by this charity during the year, and amongst those present were Lord Elliot, Admiral Ryder, Mr. Melly, M.P., &c. From the annual report it appeared that the institution had two distinct branches, one a refuge for persons out of work, and the other an industrial school. With reference to the first of these objects, the report stated that during the year 1867, 14,919 night lodgings were given, and 34,146 rations, consisting of eight ounces of bread and a pint of coffee night and morning, were issued. The great object of the refuge was, by affording shelter and food, to enable working men and women to tide over the trying interval that often elapses when one piece of work is ended and another not yet obtained. Upwards of 500 men and women had been reinstated in various grades of employment during the year direct from the refuge, and many cases had been passed on to the Council of the House of Charity in Greek-street, Soho, whose unfailing readiness to receive and assist in providing for every case sent them called for the special thanks of the committee of this institution. Thousands of poor people flocked yearly to London from the country parishes of England and Scotland, in the conviction that they could obtain there ample employment; but before long they generally found themselves strangers and destitute in a workhouse or a refuge. The very large proportion of rural distress relieved by this charity during the year, and amongst those present were Lord Elliot, Admiral Ryder, Mr. Melly, M.P., &c. From the annual report it appeared that the institution had two distinct branches, one a refuge for persons out of work, and the other an industrial school. With reference to the first of these objects, the report stated that during the year 1867, 14,919 night lodgings were given, and 34,146 rations, consisting of eight ounces of bread and a pint of coffee night and morning, were issued. The great object of the refuge was, by affording shelter and food, to enable working men and women to tide over the trying interval that often elapses when one piece of work is ended and another not yet obtained. Upwards of 500 men and women had been reinstated in various grades of employment during the year direct from the refuge, and many cases had been passed on to the Council of the House of Charity in Greek-street, Soho, whose unfailing readiness to receive and assist in providing for every case sent them called for the special thanks of the committee of this institution. Thousands of poor people flocked yearly to London from the country parishes of England and Scotland, in the conviction that they could obtain there ample employment; but before long they generally found themselves strangers and destitute in a workhouse or a refuge. The very large proportion of rural distress relieved by this charity during the year, and amongst those present were Lord Elliot, Admiral Ryder, Mr. Melly, M.P., &c. From the annual report it appeared that the institution had two distinct branches, one a refuge for persons out of work, and the other an industrial school. With reference to the first of these objects, the report stated that during the year 1867, 14,919 night lodgings were given, and 34,146 rations, consisting of eight ounces of bread and a pint of coffee night and morning, were issued. The great object of the refuge was, by affording shelter and food, to enable working men and women to tide over the trying interval that often elapses when one piece of work is ended and another not yet obtained. Upwards of 500 men and women had been reinstated in various grades of employment during the year direct from the refuge, and many cases had been passed on to the Council of the House of Charity in Greek-street, Soho, whose unfailing readiness to receive and assist in providing for every case sent them called for the special thanks of the committee of this institution. Thousands of poor people flocked yearly to London from the country parishes of England and Scotland, in the conviction that they could obtain there ample employment; but before long they generally found themselves strangers and destitute in a workhouse or a refuge. The very large proportion of rural distress relieved by this charity during the year, and amongst those present were Lord Elliot, Admiral Ryder, Mr. Melly, M.P., &c. From the annual report it appeared that the institution had two distinct branches, one a refuge for persons out of work, and the other an industrial school. With reference to the first of these objects, the report stated that during the year 1867, 14,919 night lodgings were given, and 34,146 rations, consisting of eight ounces of bread and a pint of coffee night and morning, were issued. The great object of the refuge was, by affording shelter and food, to enable working men and women to tide over the trying interval that often elapses when one piece of work is ended and another not yet obtained. Upwards of 500 men and women had been reinstated in various grades of employment during the year direct from the refuge, and many cases had been passed on to the Council of the House of Charity in Greek-street, Soho, whose unfailing readiness to receive and assist in providing for every case sent them called for the special thanks of the committee of this institution. Thousands of poor people flocked yearly to London from the country parishes of England and Scotland, in the conviction that they could obtain there ample employment; but before long they generally found themselves strangers and destitute in a workhouse or a refuge. The very large proportion of rural distress relieved by this charity during the year, and amongst those present were Lord Elliot, Admiral Ryder, Mr. Melly, M.P., &c. From the annual report it appeared that the institution had two distinct branches, one a refuge for persons out of work, and the other an industrial school. With reference to the first of these objects, the report stated that during the year 1867, 14,919 night lodgings were given, and 34,146 rations, consisting of eight ounces of bread and a pint of coffee night and morning, were issued. The great object of the refuge was, by affording shelter and food, to enable working men and women to tide over the trying interval that often elapses when one piece of work is ended and another not yet obtained. Upwards of 500 men and women had been reinstated in various grades of employment during the year direct from the refuge, and many cases had been passed on to the Council of the House of Charity in Greek-street, Soho, whose unfailing readiness to receive and assist in providing for every case sent them called for the special thanks of the committee of this institution. Thousands of poor people flocked yearly to London from the country parishes of England and Scotland, in the conviction that they could obtain there ample employment; but before long they generally found themselves strangers and destitute in a workhouse or a refuge. The very large proportion of rural distress relieved by this charity during the year, and amongst those present were Lord Elliot, Admiral Ryder, Mr. Melly, M.P., &c. From the annual report it appeared that the institution had two distinct branches, one a refuge for persons out of work, and the other an industrial school. With reference to the first of these objects, the report stated that during the year 1867, 14,919 night lodgings were given, and 34,146 rations, consisting of eight ounces of bread and a pint of coffee night and morning, were issued. The great object of the refuge was, by affording shelter and food, to enable working men and women to tide over the trying interval that often elapses when one piece of work is ended and another not yet obtained. Upwards of 500 men and women had been reinstated in various grades of employment during the year direct from the refuge, and many cases had been passed on to the Council of the House of Charity in Greek-street, Soho, whose unfailing readiness to receive and assist in providing for every case sent them called for the special thanks of the committee of this institution. Thousands of poor people flocked yearly to London from the country parishes of England and Scotland, in the conviction that they could obtain there ample employment; but before long they generally found themselves strangers and destitute in a workhouse or a refuge. The very large proportion of rural distress relieved by this charity during the year, and amongst those present were Lord Elliot, Admiral Ryder, Mr. Melly, M.P., &c. From the annual report it appeared that the institution had two distinct branches, one a refuge for persons out of work, and the other an industrial school. With reference to the first of these objects, the report stated that during the year 1867, 14,919 night lodgings were given, and 34,146 rations, consisting of eight ounces of bread and a pint of coffee night and morning, were issued. The great object of the refuge was, by affording shelter and food, to enable working men and women to tide over the trying interval that often elapses when one piece of work is ended and another not yet obtained. Upwards of 500 men and women had been reinstated in various grades of employment during the year direct from the refuge, and many cases had been passed on to the Council of the House of Charity in Greek-street, Soho, whose unfailing readiness to receive and assist in providing for every case sent them called for the special thanks of the committee of this institution. Thousands of poor people flocked yearly to London from the country parishes of England and Scotland, in the conviction that they could obtain there ample employment; but before long they generally found themselves strangers and destitute in a workhouse or a refuge. The very large proportion of rural distress relieved by this charity during the year, and amongst those present were Lord Elliot, Admiral Ryder, Mr. Melly, M.P., &c. From the annual report it appeared that the institution had two distinct branches, one a refuge for persons out of work, and the other an industrial school. With reference to the first of these objects, the report stated that during the year 1867, 14,919 night lodgings were given, and 34,146 rations, consisting of eight ounces of bread and a pint of coffee night and morning, were issued. The great object of the refuge was, by affording shelter and food, to enable working men and women to tide over the trying interval that often elapses when one piece of work is ended and another not yet obtained. Upwards of 500 men and women had been reinstated in various grades of employment during the year direct from the refuge, and many cases had been passed on to the Council of the House of Charity in Greek-street, Soho, whose unfailing readiness to receive and assist in providing for every case sent them called for the special thanks of the committee of this institution. Thousands of poor people flocked yearly to London from the country parishes of England and Scotland, in the conviction that they could obtain there ample employment; but before long they generally found themselves strangers and destitute in a workhouse or a refuge. The very large proportion of rural distress relieved by this charity during the year, and amongst those present were Lord Elliot, Admiral Ryder, Mr. Melly, M.P., &c. From the annual report it appeared that the institution had two distinct branches, one a refuge for persons out of work, and the other an industrial school. With reference to the first of these objects, the report stated that during the year 1867, 14,919 night lodgings were given, and 34,146 rations, consisting of eight ounces of bread and a pint of coffee night and morning, were issued. The great object of the refuge was, by affording shelter and food, to enable working men and women to tide over the trying interval that often elapses when one piece of work is ended and another not yet obtained. Upwards of 500 men and women had been reinstated in various grades of employment during the year direct from the refuge, and many cases had been passed on to the Council of the House of Charity in Greek-street, Soho, whose unfailing readiness to receive and assist in providing for every case sent them called for the special thanks of the committee of this institution. Thousands of poor people flocked yearly to London from the country parishes of England and Scotland, in the conviction that they could obtain there ample employment; but before long they generally found themselves strangers and destitute in a workhouse or a refuge. The very large proportion of rural distress relieved by this charity during the year, and amongst those present were Lord Elliot, Admiral Ryder, Mr. Melly, M.P., &c. From the annual report it appeared that the institution had two distinct branches, one a refuge for persons out of work, and the other an industrial school. With reference to the first of these objects, the report stated that during the year 1867, 14,919 night lodgings were given, and 34,146 rations, consisting of eight ounces of bread and a pint of coffee night and morning, were issued. The great object of the refuge was, by affording shelter and food, to enable working men and women to tide over the





THE CITY OF KISSENGEN, GERMANY.



GISSINGEN.

Who that has once visited it will ever forget this charming town with the sweet name? Of all the resorts in Bavaria this watering-place of Lower Franconia is the most attractive to many of our countrymen and countrywomen; and not without good reason, as a glance at our illustration may serve to prove. It is reached with moderate ease by travellers who go from Vienna along the Danube or from Wurzburg; it is one of the most economical of the health resorts of Bavaria; and it is on the banks of a river—the Saale. Perhaps the mineral springs of Gissingen, the Ragotzi and the Pandur Brunnen, are equal to any in Europe, and goodness knows how many bottles of the latter are exported; while the Max Brunnen spring, like seltzer without iron, is a favourite with connoisseurs in what Mr. Sam Weller designated "a flavour of warm flat-irons."

Gissingen possesses an interest just now as having been the favourite resort of the late King of Bavaria, who, in his artistic activity, caused the colonnade and the Conversation Haus to be built to supersede the old Kurhaus. Indeed, in the last few years the place has been converted from a poor village into a stately and imposing town. A little way to the north up the valley are the celebrated saltworks. The principal brine-spring which supplies them exhibits the singular phenomenon of ebbing and flowing through the artesian well or shaft recently constructed to convey its waters to the surface. It brings up with it great quantities of carbonic acid gas. The long evaporating houses (Gradir Häuser) are also very attractive to visitors of an inquiring turn who wish to improve their minds, and who are interested in those brine baths for which Gissingen is famous. For one may be not only preserved but pickled, in the Franconian retreat—thoroughly cured, in fact; not by the baths and the draughts of chalybeate only, but by the pure, fine air of Bodenlauben, whose ruined castle is one of the favourite resorts; by the change of diet drink to be found at Bochlet, six miles off, where the salts of soda are mixed with iron, and are consequently highly tonic, and not a little ex-



THE NEWLY CREATED CARDINAL PRINCE LUCIEN BONAPARTE.

citing; or by a longer journey of eighteen miles to Brückenau, where the baths in the valley of the Sinn are decidedly the finest and the most picturesque of the Brunnen of Franconia.

CARDINAL PRINCE BONAPARTE.

Of the nine new Cardinals created at the late consistory at Rome, the most distinguished is Monsignor Bonaparte, one of the Pope's Privy Chamberlains and Apostolical Prothonotary. Very few of us have heard much of this prelate; and, indeed, many of our readers may, for a moment, be surprised to learn that any priest of that name should occupy such an exalted position as to be chosen to receive the Cardinal's hat, his nomination being characterised by a "special and separate ceremony." It is, of course, easy to see that this distinction has been conferred out of gratitude to the recent intervention of the Emperor of the French in the Papal interest. The golden rose has been sent to the Queen of Spain, the jewelled sword elsewhere; but, at least, there is something left for the Pope to bestow on the family which the Church has had so much reason to hate and to propitiate, to fear and to solicit. Monsignor Bonaparte, forty years of age, and so coming, as may be said, early to the high honour and dignity of a Cardinalship, has been hitherto chiefly celebrated for two things—his marvellous gift of silence and his personal resemblance to the first Napoleon. The first is, it is believed, constitutional, and the rare gift has been cultivated into an accomplishment, until this representative of the family of Bonaparte has become recognised as an example of suppressed force and of silent, waiting, watchful power. The physical resemblance to the first Emperor is scarcely surprising when it is remembered that his Eminence is the head and representative of the Bonaparte Princes of Canino and Musignano, that elder branch of the Bonaparte family in whose veins since 1822 is blended the blood both of Joseph and Lucien, the first and the third brothers of the founder of the Imperial dynasty of France. This Italian or Roman branch of the house of Bonaparte, boasting a double descent from



A STATUE FAIR IN DRESDEN.



the family, have always exhibited the especial qualities by which their house achieved greatness. The first Prince of Canino, Lucien, the only able man among the brothers of the first Napoleon, began life as a Republican of the antique type and ended it at the other end of the political gamut. His son Charles, who preceded Mazzini at Rome, made the best terms possible with the man who sent the French army, under Oudinot, to suppress the Romish Republic; and, though himself an unalterable antagonist to the Papacy, encouraged his second son, the present Cardinal, to seek a career in the Church. In 1853 the young Lucien was ordained priest, and from that time to the present his name seems scarcely to have been mentioned; yet he has grown upwards, until now we suddenly find him at the height of a Cardinalate. What political significance there may be in the appointment it would be difficult to discover, although it is asserted that the Abbé Bonaparte was a Cardinal *in petto* as soon as he was a priest. Whether this be so or not, it must be remembered that he is but one in a council where the majority is supposed to rule; and the present position of the Romish hierarchy is not so secure as to give much weight to any prophecies founded on supposed political combinations. There were, it must be remembered, eight other Cardinals created at the same consistory—Ferrieri, Gonella, Bari, Berardi, Moreno, Monaco, and the Diocesan Cardinals Borromeo and Capotri.

The Cardinal Bonaparte, who has received the title of Saint Paderius, and is appointed member of the congregations of Bishops and regulars, is the son of Charles Bonaparte and the Princess Zenaide Charlotte Julie, daughter of the late Joseph Napoleon, once King of Naples. At Court his title is that of Most Serene Highness; and, according to the *Almanach de Gotha*, he belongs to that branch of the Bonapartes classed in the "Princely Families not Sovereigns." His Highness is the second of the family who has arrived at the present dignity since 1793. Fesch, the maternal uncle of the first Napoleon, was promoted from an Archdeaconry in Ajaccio to a place in the commissariat of the Revolutionary army; in 1800 was sent back to his parish; and was afterwards intrusted with the negotiation of the Concordat; raised to an Archbishopric, and then to a Cardinalate, and, being placed at the head of a National Council, might have become a candidate for Pontifical honours—France's candidate—but for his Ultramontane and Jesuitical views. The present appointment augments the number of French Cardinals to six, the other five being their Eminences Bonald, Mathieu, Donnet, Bonchese, and Bilet, Archbishop of Chambéry.

#### A STATUTE FAIR IN DRESDEN.

ONCE in each year there has been held in Dresden, from time immemorial, a fair for the hiring of servants; and agents may be seen entering the names and capabilities of the men and women as they arrive, and engaging them for the farmers and families in the neighbourhood from whom they have received commissions—all engagements being for one year. The servants here meet friends whom they may not have seen for a year, or years; and it is here that they hear the latest news and scandal from home or the village. The conversation is of the liveliest description, the girls having naturally the most to talk about. Healthy men—dressed in large blue cloak; cloth cap, trimmed round with fur; high, strong leather boots; and generally having a bundle or wallet slung behind—are to be seen talking and laughing to girls blooming and healthy, if not pretty. Now and then are to be observed groups of strangers to the city, standing, open-mouthed, gazing at the statues of St. John and others, in the niches in front of the church, wondering if they, perhaps, have not formerly been some distinguished persons also engaged in the fair business; more especially as St. John has a pen in his hand, and seems to have been taking notes or making entries. It is a singular sight, in the middle of the city, in the most frequented place, to see hundreds of country people—some sitting on the steps of the church, while others lounge against lamp-posts or aught else to be found—transacting the all-important business of engaging a ploughman or a milkmaid, a hostler or coachman, or any other grade or description of servant. The fair lasts from ten a.m. to two p.m.; and, should any persons then remain unhired—which is seldom the case, for the difficulty of getting good servants is not felt only in London—they are soon engaged by the commission agents.

#### TRADES UNIONS.

THE report of the examiners appointed last August to inquire into trades union outrages in the Manchester district presents statements truly disgraceful to the trades concerned. The members of several unions of brickmakers and bricklayers in the district destroyed their books before the examiners arrived; but the confessions made for the sake of obtaining a grant of indemnity supplied proof enough.

The Manchester Brickmakers' Society claim an extent of four miles round Manchester in every direction—an area of 120 square miles—as their peculiar "district," within the limits of which they permit no bricks to be made except by Manchester union men, nor any bricks to be sold except those made within the district. The Manchester Wapentake Union refused to allow even a workman's wife or sister to warp; for, "if women were allowed to warp, the wages of the men would be reduced." The Bolton Tailors' Unions No. 1 and No. 2 actually fixed which masters should employ men belonging to No. 1 society and which shall employ No. 2 men; they regulate the hours at which the men shall work, and until recently they "did not recognise machines," and a year ago issued an order "that the masters dispense with machines;" but since then it seems the union altered their opinion on the subject of machinery. In support of such "laws" as these, and to avenge the employment of non-union men, the members of these societies and of others in the Ashton and Bolton districts have perpetrated outrages that make this report read like a story of life among savages—wanton destruction of property, deadly assaults, attempts to fire houses, murder itself—driving masters out of the trade, and making men cripples for life for the offence of earning an honest living. The evidence is not new to the public, but the brief summary of it now presented to Parliament in this report is very striking. These crimes are clearly brought home to the unions, paid for out of union funds, so much for the "job." They were, say the examiners, deliberately planned and executed in furtherance of a system which had for its object the subjection of both masters and men to the rules of the union and the destruction of the freedom of labour. Sometimes a resolution was passed that the outrage should be committed; but, whether there was a distinct resolution to that effect, or the opinion of the meeting was unmistakably ascertained, the measures to be adopted were usually left to the officers of the society. There was no difficulty in finding persons ready to carry out the purpose of the union. One member of the Manchester union (James Kay) was said to be constantly thus employed: a witness said that Kay did nothing else, and lived by such employment. He absconded the first morning the Commission met at Manchester. The largest sum the examiners found to have been paid for such a purpose was £20. The money paid for these outrages was frequently entered in the books of the unions as "certain expenses," or without any explanation for what it had been spent; and these modes of making up the accounts seem to have been so well understood that the auditors never objected to the item, but passed the accounts. The account-books and minute-books were always on the table at the regular meetings of the union, and open to the inspection of the members; and, though few may have taken the trouble to inspect them, the examiners have no doubt that the expenditure and the object for which it had been made were well known to every member of the union. It is but too evident that the members of the unions which came under notice at Manchester consider that the outrages had been perpetrated and the union money spent in the promotion of a system which they sanctioned and upheld.

Such is the report of the examiners (Mr. Pickering, Q.C.; Mr. Barstow, and Mr. Chance) presented to the Royal Commissioners on Trades Unions. The report of the Commissioners themselves is yet to come.

#### A SHIPWRECKED CREW.

THE particulars of one of those romantic sea adventures which illustrate how much stranger truth is than fiction have just been published in Australia. The Auckland Islands, situate about four degrees due south of New Zealand, have of late years obtained much notoriety by reason of the shelter they have afforded to shipwrecked crews. They ought to be out of the course of vessels returning to England from Australia, but occasionally ships are driven into those stormy latitudes, and four or five of them are known to have been lost within as many years. Eighteen years ago the islands were made the dépot for the whaling-ships of an English company, originated by the Messrs. Enderby, and a relative of those gentlemen was then created Governor. After a few years' trial the company was broken up; and with Governor Enderby's departure all attempt at settlement was finally abandoned. Two or three hundred Maories had found a home there for several years, but the region was so inhospitable that they also were eventually obliged to forsake it.

In 1865 a shipwrecked crew was taken off by a homeward-bound vessel, and the islands were thoroughly searched in October and November of that year by the colonial steamers Victoria and Southland, both of which left goats, rabbits, poultry, and sowed the commoner vegetables in various places. Three men, wrecked in the schooner Grafton, had, earlier in that year, succeeded in reaching New Zealand, after having existed on the islands nearly eighteen months, the boat being so small and leaky that the fourth man had to be left behind. Besides rescuing this veritable Crusoe, traces of other wrecks were discovered; but from that day to this, although several homeward-bound vessels have been missing, no further visits have been made to the islands either by men-of-war or others. The wreck of one of these missing vessels has just become known, and ten of her passengers and crew have been taken off, after eighteen months of much hardship. The General Grant, of Boston, a fine ship of 1095 tons, Captain Loughlin, sailed from Melbourne, on May 4, 1866, for London, with a crew and passengers numbering eighty-three souls, and a cargo consisting chiefly of wool and six boxes of gold. On the 13th, the weather being thick, the Auckland Islands were sighted close ahead, and the ship was immediately hauled on the port tack. The wind being light and a strong current setting in shore, the ship struck heavily under some almost perpendicular cliffs, carrying away her jibboom and rudder. A boiling surf prevented any attempt at escape until the next day, after the ship had been, in the darkness, drawn into a cave about 250 ft. deep, but not sufficiently high to admit her all standing. The foremast went first, and then the mainmast, both bringing down huge pieces of rock, which stove in the fore-castle. When the day broke the ship was still striking heavily forward, with 25 fathoms under her stern. The pinnace was first launched, and three or four men sent in her to lay out lines and a kedge, and then the gig was lowered from the stern, with the chief officer and four men. Up to this time the wind was light and the tide had been falling; but now, both setting strongly into the cave, the vessel forged further up, and the mainmast coming into contact with the lessening roof, caused the keel to start the ship's bottom, and she began to fill. The women were hurried into the long boat, one of whom (Mrs. Jewell, the stewardess) fell from the ship into the sea, but was rescued by her husband jumping after her and reaching the gig. Two other passengers followed Jewell's example, and were also picked up. The sea had now risen considerably and swept the poop. The long boat was seen to float with about forty persons, but soon, getting into the breakers, filled and sank. The gig had made an ineffectual attempt to return to the ship, and now, with the pinnace, watched outside the breakers, in the hope of rescuing such strong swimmers as in their agony might force themselves into smoother water. Three such were picked up, and then the ship was seen to go down, Captain Loughlin, with one man by his side, standing in the mizen-top waving a last farewell. After laying to until all hope of rescuing any more lives was gone, the two boats made for one of the islands, and next day effected a landing in "Sarah's Bosom," which is, I believe, the original and still popular name of the harbour marked on the charts as Port Ross. Here these sixteen people appear to have remained until Jan. 22, 1867, living principally on seals, limpets, mussels, and occasionally catching a pig or a goat. On that date the chief officer, three of the crew, and a passenger left the island in one of the boats for New Zealand. Hope of a successful voyage died out in those left behind, after waiting in vain from month to month for succour; and they rightly concluded that the chief officer and his companions, to whom they had already owed much, had perished in the attempt. One of the shore passengers died from dysentery, from which they all suffered severely, and this appears to have impressed them with many gloomy forebodings; all were, however, fortunately obliged to exert themselves daily in getting wood for signal-fires, keeping a look-out, hunting for food, and turning the sealskins into clothing. At length, on Nov. 21, the whaling-ship Amherst was attracted by the signals, and took the nine men and one woman on board, and landed them at the Bluff (Southland) on the 13th inst. Their names are:—Passengers: James Teer (Seer), Patrick Coughney, Nicholas Allan, David Ashworth. Crew: Mary Anne Jewell (stewardess), Joseph Jewell, Cornelius Drew, William Ferguson, A. Haipman (Hayman), and A. M. Sagully (Pengelly). An official inquiry has been held by the magistrate at the Bluff; but the narrative above given is wholly drawn from the telegrams received by the Government and the press. No mail has yet reached Wellington from the Bluff since the Amherst arrived there. It is thought that some of the cargo of the General Grant may be recovered, and sending a steamer to endeavour to do so is talked about. It is to be hoped that the Governments of Australia and New Zealand will cause the islands to be visited at stated intervals, with a view to the speedier removal of any future crews who may be unfortunate enough to get cast away there.

THE GRAVESEND POOR-LAW GUARDIANS held a meeting last week to choose a porter for the workhouse. Out of the persons who had answered their advertisement two of the most likely candidates had been ordered to attend the meeting of the board. As it happened, only one came. This man was an old soldier. Everything about him was found to be satisfactory but his religion; he was a Roman Catholic. The chairman (Mr. Crowhurst) said he would never consent to a Roman Catholic being appointed to any office in the workhouse; the other guardians assented, and so the appointment was deferred for a week.

A FLAW IN THE SANITARY ACT.—Several events have tended of late to direct attention to the inertness of the nuisance authorities in various parts of the country, and no little discussion has taken place in reference to the power conferred on the Home Secretary by clause 49 of the Sanitary Act to deal with negligent boards. Most persons believe that by the section in question the Home Secretary can compel local authorities to do what is necessary for the health and comfort of the community, should they decline to take any steps voluntarily. There is some doubt of this. Last summer a memorial was addressed to the Secretary of State for the Home Department by Mr. Woody, of Tamworth, requesting that an inquiry might be made into the sanitary condition of that place. Accordingly, on Aug. 1 last, an inspection of the borough was made by Mr. R. Morgan, C.E. This inspector recommended that the town council "should take into their most serious consideration the immediate construction of works of sewerage and water supply, to abate the existing nuisances, and thereby lower the excessive rate of mortality." But this body has resolved, in spite of the recommendation of Government, that works of sewerage and water supply are not required within the borough. Their determination was made known to Government, with a request that the provisions of the Act might be enforced. In the reply from the Local Government Act Office, dated Oct. 17, 1867, it is stated, *inter alia*, that "the Home Secretary feels that he has no power to compel local boards or other governing bodies to construct sanitary works, not even upon the powers of the 49th section of the Sanitary Act of last year." Mr. J. B. Hutchinson, in his exposition of the Sanitary Act, which has just been published, says that by the 49th section "power is given to the Secretary of State, on complaint, &c., to take the necessary steps for carrying out the provisions of the Act, to make inquiry, &c.; and if he is satisfied of the laches of the authority complained against, to make an order on such authority to perform its duty; and if such order be not obeyed, to appoint some one else to do the necessary work, and direct the amount of remuneration to be paid by the local authority in default, who, should it be necessary, may be proceeded against in the Queen's Bench." This is the evident rendering of the Act; but it would seem that the Home Secretary thinks otherwise. The point in dispute should be cleared up at once.

#### PROVINCIAL WORKHOUSES.

A TERRIBLE picture of the condition of many of the provincial workhouses was drawn by the Archbishop of York last Saturday, at an interview of a deputation from the Workhouse Infirmaries Association with the President of the Poor-Law Board. At Chesterfield workhouse, for instance, said his Grace, quoting from the official inspector's report, some of the beds in the infirmary are so near together as almost to touch, the rain drips through the ventilators in the ceiling on to the floor, and in one instance on to the bed. There are no proper chairs, dining-tables, or tablecloths; in one ward seven dirty and neglected children were found eating their dinners on the floor; the medicines are handed over to the patients, who take them or not as they are inclined; there are no proper means of washing the sick, and only one towel a week is allowed for use in each ward. In the same infirmary an imbecile patient was lately beaten to death by a pauper wardman for some trifling act of negligence. In the Sharnford union there is no classification even of the sexes; at Ashton-under-Lyne the convalescent sick share the lunatic day-room, confinements take place in the general sick-wards, and the fever wards are used for itch and other disgusting diseases. This state of things is more or less common to the Blackburn, Burnley, Bury, Chorley, Clitheroe, the Fylde, Haslingden, Oldham, and Preston workhouses. His Grace recommended that the reforms which have been made in the management of the London workhouses should be extended to those in the provinces; that the sick poor should be separated from the able-bodied paupers; that in lieu of sick-wards annexed to each workhouse, consolidated infirmaries, managed on the hospital system, should be provided; that from 1000 to 1500 cubic feet of air should be allowed to each patient; that nursing should be conducted by a trained staff, with one assistant nurse for each fifty patients; that there should be a resident medical officer to every 250 patients—the medical officer to have no pecuniary interest in the medicines dispensed; and that Lord Devon should seek from Parliament powers to enforce a code of regulations for the government of infirmary establishments, and to appoint an auxiliary corps of medical inspectors. Mr. Ernest Hart suggested that these inspectors should report specifically. There were reports and reports, and most of the stock phrases in use by inspectors were mere euphemisms, covering a multitude of workhouse sins. Inspectors were too fond of reporting in adjectives; thus, what they called "insufficient attendance" meant neglect of giving the sick their proper diets, leaving them to their own help or no help, mixing the convalescent sick who needed rest and quiet with noisy lunatics; "inadequate" and "insufficient" stood for the evils which had been exposed in connection with the Bedminster union: the scrubbing of hands black with gangrene as if they were black with dirt; the killing of an infant by accidentally placing it in scalding water, and then rubbing off the blisters with a towel, &c. The Earl of Devon, in reply to the deputation, said that the Legislature was not always ready to give the Board powers over guardians, for fear of strengthening centralisation. He acknowledged the value of the recommendations of the Infirmary Committee, and said that many of them were already embodied in the bill he should propose for second reading on Monday night.

"POOR IRELAND!"—Fun this week has a capital cartoon—by Richard Doyle, we presume. It is called "Poor Ireland!" and it represents a languishing girl, in a shamrock-trimmed dress, reclining in an invalid-chair, with a crowd of competing doctors about her. The physician feeling her pulse wears the likeness of Mr. Disraeli; another who presses forward with "Whig mixture" is Earl Russell; a medical man who bears a bowl of "heroic remedies" is Mr. Mill; and so on through a great crowd of figures, every one a likeness. Mr. Disraeli, Mr. Mill, Mr. Bright, Mr. Goldwin Smith, Mr. Tom Hughes, and Mr. Maguire are about the best. Mr. Gladstone is not so good. Earl Mayo is good; so is Mr. Lowe, who turns away from the crowd angry and contemptuous. Two figures in the background, The O'Donoghue and Dean O'Brien, we fancy, are waiting with their remedy, "complete isolation." At the left of the invalid, just under her chair, crouches a Fenian, with a case of surgical instruments. The whole thing is remarkably clever, and some of the likenesses are capital.—*Sat.*

THE WHEAT SUPPLY.—In a valuable paper which was read before the Statistical Society a few days ago, Mr. James Caird sets forth some important facts and calculations respecting the wheat market. Assuming the average annual consumption to be 20,800,000 quarters, he deducts for the home produce of 1867 9,700,000 quarters, leaving a total of 11,100,000. From this total Mr. Caird makes other deductions. He estimates that the high price of wheat has diminished the consumption by five per cent, or by 1,040,000 quarters. He also calculates that, since eight days' consumption was saved by the lateness of the harvest, we must make a further deduction of 460,000 quarters. Thus, the foreign supply required for the whole year was 9,600,000 quarters, or 800,000 quarters a month. Now, during the six months which have passed since harvest time, 940,000 a month have been imported; so that we have already a surplus, and before the next harvest we shall have to make provision only for 4,000,000 quarters, or 660,000 quarters a month. During the same period of last year we imported 700,000 quarters monthly; and Mr. Caird justly argues that now, when the price of wheat is 10s. more than it was then, and when our wants are less, we may count upon getting a sufficient supply without having to advance the present rate.

EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY.—The Professorship of Biblical Criticism in the University of Edinburgh, vacant by the death of Dr. Robert Lee, is being closely contested. The patronage of the chair belongs to the Crown; and among the candidates whose respective claims the Home Secretary will have to consider are the Rev. Frederick Crombie, a relative of the distinguished grammarian of that name, some time pastor of the Presbyterian congregation in Paris, and well known in Scottish academic circles for accurate and comprehensive scholarship; the Rev. Professor Dickson, the translator of Mommsen's "History of Rome"; the Rev. Dr. Milligan, Professor of Biblical Criticism in the University of Aberdeen; and the Rev. A. H. Charteris, the biographer of Dr. Robertson. This is the third academic post which has lately become vacant in the University of Edinburgh. The chair of Moral Philosophy, vacant by the death of Professor Macdougall, lies between Professor Campbell Shairp, of St. Andrews, the author of several striking papers on ethical subjects in the *North British Review*, and Mr. James Hutchinson Stirling, author of the "Secret of Hegel." Finally, the Principality of the University itself, of which Sir David Brewster was the latest holder, has many candidates for the honour it confers. Sir James Simpson and Professor Christies are among the claimants from the medical side of the Senate. Sir Alexander Grant, now at Bombay, and editor of the well-known text and interpretation of "Aristotle's Ethics;" and Mr. J. D. Forbes, Principal of St. Andrews University, and author of the well-known glacier theory and of the sequel to the Dissertation on Natural Philosophy, contributed to the "Encyclopædia Britannica" by Professors Playfair and Leslie, are also candidates.

MR. HARE'S SCHEME OF REPRESENTATION.—The adjourned meeting for the discussion of Mr. Hare's system of representation was held at the offices of the Reform League last Saturday. Mr. Hare made some remarks, in which he dealt with the objections that had been raised against his plan—namely, that it was complex, offered facilities for bribery and wire-pulling, and would not work in harmony with the ballot. It was certainly not more complex, he said, than the system of bankers' cheques, and yet on this system payments were made daily of millions throughout the country, and accounts were balanced every morning at the clearing-house without the slightest confusion. The voting-paper would be treated with the same care as the cheque, and after the election would be filed by the returning officer, for reference if any question arose. There was much less complexity in his plan than in the daily business of the Post Office. As to bribery, he had no recipe for making the political world suddenly virtuous; but he would deal with corruption in political life as the physician treated physical maladies—diminish the conditions which propagated the disease and isolate the infected. By his system the infected would be absolutely isolated, and no man could do more than sell himself; he could not, in conjunction with a few others like him, sell the borough. As to "wire-pulling," only those who liked need submit to the operation; no man could be forced to undergo it. As to the ballot, his scheme, with a little alteration, would be perfectly applicable to that, though he had not originally contemplated secrecy of voting, for to that *per se* he had a great aversion. His plan would be perfectly adapted to the present franchise or to universal suffrage, and it would not sweep away local representation. Professor Fawcett, in supporting Mr. Hare's plan, thought that, among other things, it would facilitate the more direct representation of the working classes. Mr. Storne, of the United States, observed that one objection to the scheme had been put forward in America on the ground that it might even admit of a representative of the thieves of New York. The answer to the objection was obvious. Let the thieves have a representative. The influence of that representative would not be very great in an assembly of honest men; but it would be much better to have one recognised representative of the thieves than that, as under the present system, the thieves should have thirty or forty representatives. After various other gentlemen had spoken, Mr. Beales explained that a proposal which had been made to appoint a committee to discuss the subject would in no way commit the league to any opinion on Mr. Hare's system.



operation, remove all oppressive accumulations, regulate the secretions of the liver and bowels, strengthen the stomach, and purify the blood. Sold by all Chemists, at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d.



**ROBERT COCKS AND CO.'S NEW MUSIC.**  
**SUNDAY PIANO MUSIC.** Edited by JOHN BISHOP. Finely Illustrated. Two Books, 4s. each. Sent by post for 25 stamps.  
**SUNDAY VOCAL MUSIC.** Edited by Geo. F. West. Two Books, 4s. each; free by post for 25 stamps each. "This is a beautiful arrangement of tunes, especially intended for Sunday evenings in the family or school-room. It is clearly printed and beautifully got up, and will be found a nice addition to a sacred musical library."—*Go-pal Magazine* for February.  
**PULASKI'S BANNER.** Vocal Duet. Words by Longfellow. Music by Miss M. Lindsay (Mrs. J. W. Biles). For a Soprano and Contralto. 3s.; free by post for 19 stamps.  
**BEST Sacred Song.** By the Composer of "Too Late, Too Late," "Resignation," "The Lord will Provide," "Come unto Me," "Thou, O Lord God," "They shall Hunger no More," &c. 3s. each; free by post for 19 stamps.  
London: New Burlington-street.

Sent post-free for 18 stamps.  
**THE MAN WHO CAN'T KEEP STILL.**  
Comic Song. By J. W. GERRY. Sung by J. H. Stodd (The Cure).—London: JOHN SHEPHERD, 20, Warwick-lane.

Sent post-free for 18 stamps each.  
**THE "CAN'T KEEP STILL" POLKA**  
and GALOP. Introducing the above popular Tune.  
London: JOHN SHEPHERD, 20, Warwick-lane, E.C.

**EXETER HALL.** New Magazine of Sacred Music. No. 3, for APRIL. CONTENTS.  
1. New Sacred Song, "He gives His beloved Sleep." By Jules Benedict. Illustration. "Sound the Loud Timbral." By W. Kuhn.  
2. New Hymn, "Lo! the Lilies of the Field." By E. J. Hopkins, Organist of the Temple.  
3. Sacred Song, "I think of Thee." By R. Redhead.  
4. Sunday Evening at the Harmonium. No. III. By E. F. Rimbaud.  
Price One Shilling. Post-free 14 stamps.  
METZGER and Co., 27, Great Marlborough-street, London, W.; G. Routledge and Sons, Broadway, Ludgate-hill.

Now ready, price 1s. monthly, No. IV, of  
**MACMILLAN'S MAGAZINE,**  
No. 102.  
CONTENTS OF THE NUMBER:—  
1. MR. J. SCOTT RUSSELL, F.R.S., on "TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND NATIONAL WELFARE."  
2. MR. G. O. TREVELYAN, M.P., on "MEMORIAL LITERATURE OF THE AMERICAN WAR."  
3. "ANDROMACHE." By W. G. G.  
4. MR. HELPFULS' "BALKAN" (continued).  
5. MR. LEBLAIN'S "STUDY ON 'RIVALISM'."  
6. MISS YONGE'S "CHAPLET OF PEARLS" (continued).  
7. MRS. FAWCETT on "THE EDUCATION OF WOMEN OF THE MIDDLE AND UPPER CLASSES."  
8. MR. GOLDWIN SMITH on "THE LAST REPUBLICANS OF ROME."  
9. MR. FREDERICK LOCKER'S "GERALDINE AND I."  
NOTICE.—The May Number of "Macmillan's Magazine" will contain a new poem by Alfred Tennyson, Post Laureate, entitled "Lacertina," which will occupy 7 pages. Other important articles will appear in the same number, which commences a New Volume. MACMILLAN and Co., London.

Now ready (One Shilling), No. 100, of  
**THE SUNDAY LIBRARY.**  
THE HERMITS, Part I.  
by Professor KINGSLAY, with Illustrations.  
To be completed in 3 monthly parts, and form Vol. II. of the series. Vol. I. "The Pupils of St. John the Divine," by the Author of "The Hair of Medusa," is now ready, price 4s., gilt edges, 4s. 6d.  
MACMILLAN and Co., London.

Now ready (One Shilling), No. 100, of  
**THE CORNHILL MAGAZINE**  
for APRIL.  
with Illustrations by Miss M. Ellen Edwards and George Du Maurier.  
CONTENTS.  
The Bramblethorn of Bishop's Folly. (With an Illustration.) Chapter XL. "A Reception" at Home.  
"XIII.—A Long Time—A Tale." Somewhere in England and Wales.  
The North British. (With an Illustration.) Lady Demel. (With an Illustration.) A Holiday among some Old Friends. "Don Ricardo."  
The Old Loves of Our Lives. (By an American.) SMITH, ELDER, and Co., 40, Cornhill.

Post-free for Seven Stamps to all parts of the United Kingdom.  
**FOR FAMILY READING IN TOWN AND COUNTRY.**  
Now ready, for APRIL, No. 3 of  
**THE LONDON AND COUNTRY REVIEW.**

CONTENTS.  
The Philosopher. A Novel. Chronology of the Month:—Home and Foreign Politics. Science and Natural History. Literature and the Fine Arts. The Economic Papers. No. I. Marble by Clockwork. The Everlasting Rose. Stanzas. A Tale of the Primæval Ages. I. and II. London: S. and T. GILBERT, 4, Copthall-buildings, E.C.

Just published, 800 pp., post 8vo, 9s., cloth (postage 10d.),  
**WHOLESOME FARE: A Manual of the**  
Laws of Food and the Practice of Cookery, embodying the best receipts in British and Continental Cookery, with Hints and Recipes for the Sedentary, the Sick, and the Convalescent. By EDWARD R. and ELLEN R. LITTLE. "The first really readable and amusing cookery-book since Kitchener's."—*Fun*.  
"One of the best books on the subject that we have met with. It will be equally welcome to the gastronomic student, and to the director of domestic culinary operations."—*Illustrated Times*.  
"As superior to the ordinary cookery-books as a diamond is to a glass imitation of that gem."—*Country Life*.  
The receipts are strikingly intelligible, practical, and satisfactory; simple, clear, and more effective than we have seen anywhere else.—*Glowworm*.  
A trustworthy adviser for the sick-chamber.—*Bookeller*.  
London: LOCKWOOD and Co., 7, Stationers' Hall-court, Ludgate-hill.

**THE CORSET AND THE CRINOLINE.**  
Just ready, fcap 4to, handsomely bound, price 7s. 6d.,  
**THE CORSET AND THE CRINOLINE.**

A Book of Costumes and Modes. With 60 Illustrations of the Changes of Fashion from the Earliest Times to the Present Day; with a Glance at the Industries and Manufactures connected with Modern Fashion.  
London: WARD, LOCK, and TYLER, Warwick House, Paternoster-row.

Just published, price 6d.,  
**THE END OF VACCINATION,** the  
BLOOD POISONER.  
By JOHN MORISON.  
Member of the Anti-Vaccination League.  
Dr. Nitzsner, by his work, first published at Stuttgart, Germany, shows that the guinea vaccine matter is the cause of diphtheria, cholera, consumption, and all fever, since it operates through the blood as a complete rotter of the system.  
May be had at the  
British College of Health, Euston-road, London,  
and of all the Hygienic Agents throughout the world;  
also of Messrs. Galignani, Paris,  
and Mr. Eyraud, Boulogne-sur-Mer.

**DEANE and CO.'S TABLE CUTLERY,**  
celebrated for more than 150 years, remains unequalled for quality and cheapness. The Stock is extensive and complete, affording a choice suited to the taste and means of every purchaser.  
Ivory Handles. . . . . 14 0 0  
Table Knives, per doz. . . . . 14 0 0  
Dessert do. . . . . 12 0 0  
Carvers, Joint, per pair . . . . . 5 0 0  
Catalogues of Cutlery, Electro-plate, Lamps, Baths, Stoves, Ranges, Fenders, Firebricks, Iron Bedsteads, Copper and Tin Goods, &c., gratis and post-free. Established A.D. 1790.  
Deane and Co. (46, King William-street), London Bridge.

**BENSON'S WATCHES.**—Monograms of every conceivable Design, Crests, Armorial Bearings, &c., in Gold or enriched with Enamel and Gems, have been introduced as Decorations for J. W. Benson's Watches. By Appointment to the Prince of Wales.—Old Bond-street; Westbourne-grove; and Lodge-hill. See Price-list.

**BENSON'S CLOCKS.**—New Designs from the Paris Exhibition have been introduced into all branches of the Clock Department at J. W. Benson's, Watch and Clock Maker to the Prince of Wales.—Old Bond-street; Westbourne-grove; and Lodge-hill. See Price-list.

**NEW PARISHIAN COSTUMES.** ready for immediate wear.—Velvetines, 3s.; Rich Silk, 3s. to 4s. Elegantly-trimmed Patterns, with Directions for Self-measurement, post-free.—MRS. HORSLEY, 71, Oxford-street, W.

A NOVELTY FOR LADIES' DRESSES.  
**THE "ROMAN" CLOTH (Registered).**  
This very desirable Fabric is produced in a variety of different Styles and Qualities. A numerous collection of Patterns, from 10s. 6d. to 15s. 6d., sent post-free.—PETER ROBINSON, 103 to 108, Oxford-street, W.

**THE "BEST" FRENCH PRINTED PIQUES AT THE PRICE OF CAMBRICS.**  
Now Selling, a small lot of about 500 Pieces, all in the utmost Elegance of Design and Richness of Colouring, at 12s. 9d. the Dress, usually sold at 27s. 6d. This, without doubt, is the cheapest lot of "Best" Piques ever Patterns free.—PETER ROBINSON, 103 to 108, Oxford-street, W.

IN WHITE, BLACK, AND ALL COLOURS.  
**CRYSTAL JAPANESE SILKS.**  
Now ready, a large variety than ever before attempted of this very brilliant article, in plain, striped, and rich Broads, 35s. 6d. to 24s. the Full Dress.  
The famous "Yokohama Grey" (registered), 2s. PETER ROBINSON, 103 to 108, Oxford-street, W.

**PETER ROBINSON** invites the special attention of Ladies to his New Stock of Rich PLAIN and FANCY SILKS, selected from the Stocks of the most eminent English, French, Swiss, and German Manufacturers. Prices from 24s. to 12s. the Full Robe. Also, 3000 Pieces of Small-stripe and Check Silks, designed for Young Ladies, of which any length will be cut. Patterns free.—PETER ROBINSON, 103 to 108, Oxford-street, W.

**SPECIAL NOTICE (SILKS).**  
**PETER ROBINSON** having Purchased by Contract Two Manufacturers' Stocks of RICH MOIRÉ ANTIQUES (all new Colours and made expressly for this Season), will offer them, in Two Lots, at prices hitherto unknown for such rich qualities.  
Price, Lot 1 . . . 9s. 11d. per yard; Measure, 34 in. wide.  
" " Lot 2 . . . 11s. 9d. per yard; Measure, 34 in. wide.  
Patterns free.  
Peter Robinson, 103 to 108, Oxford-street, W.

**PETER ROBINSON'S ONE-GUINEA WATERPROOF MANTLES,** with and without Sleeves. Illustrations, with Prices, sent free on application.  
Peter Robinson's, 103 to 108, Oxford-street.

**A GREAT VARIETY OF JACKETS and MANTLES** suitable for Spring and Summer Wear, from 10s. 6d. each.  
PETER ROBINSON, 103 to 108, Oxford-street.

**FAMILY MOURNING,** made up and trimmed in the most correct taste, may be obtained at the most reasonable prices, at PETER ROBINSON'S. Goods are sent free of charge, for selection, to all parts of England (with dressmaker, if desired) upon receipt of letter, order, or telegram; and Patterns are sent, with Book of Illustrations, to all parts of the world.  
The Court and General Mourning Warehouse, 26 to 32, Regent-street, London.  
The largest and most complete Mourning Warehouse in Europe. PETER ROBINSON'S.

As a Guarantee for Wear the Maker's Name is woven in the Piece.  
**SUPERIOR BLACK SILKS,** by Tupperley, Bonnet, and other celebrated Makers. PETER ROBINSON would invite the special attention of purchasers to the superior make and qualities of his BLACK SILKS. Goods are sent free of charge, for selection, to all parts of England (with dressmaker, if desired) upon receipt of letter, order, or telegram; and Patterns are sent, with Book of Illustrations, to all parts of the world.  
The Court and General Mourning Warehouse, 26 to 32, Regent-street, London.  
The largest and most complete Mourning Warehouse in Europe. PETER ROBINSON'S.

**NEW SPRING SILKS.** IMPORTANT NOTICE.  
NICHOLSON and Co., Silkmercers, 50 to 52, St. Paul's-churchyard, have just completed a very extensive purchase of Lyons Silks, Black and Coloured, at very advantageous prices. The following advertisements detail the particulars of this very important parcel.  
Ladies unable personally to inspect the stock can have 500 patterns, representing 50,000 yards of rich silks, sent post-free. Nicholson and Co., 50 to 52, St. Paul's-churchyard, London.

**£20,000 WORTH NEW SILKS.** Coloured Glaces, 30 shades, from 1s. 11d. per yard. 500 Patterns post-free. At NICHOLSON'S, 50 to 52, St. Paul's-churchyard.

**£20,000 WORTH NEW SILKS.** Checks and Stripes, from 1 guinea a Dress. 500 Patterns post-free. At NICHOLSON'S, 50 to 52, St. Paul's-churchyard.

**£20,000 WORTH NEW SILKS.** Moiré Antiques, Corded Silks, Chéné and Broché Silks, from 2s. 500 Patterns post-free. At NICHOLSON'S, 50 to 52, St. Paul's-churchyard.

**£3500 WORTH BLACK SILKS.** Black Glaces, Gros Grains, Drap de Lyon, Drap de Paris, &c., from 1 guinea a Dress. 500 Patterns post-free. At NICHOLSON'S, 50 to 52, St. Paul's-churchyard.

**£5000 WORTH OF REALLY ELEGANT and useful LYONS SILKS** of last year's designs, at 2s. a yard under original prices. 500 Patterns free. At NICHOLSON'S, 50 to 52, St. Paul's-churchyard.

**FRENCH CAMBRICS EXTRAORDINARY.** 500 Pieces, in varied and tasteful patterns, all at 1s. 11d. for 10 yards; really worth 1s. 6d. Patterns free. NICHOLSON, 50 to 52, St. Paul's-churchyard.

**EARLY SPRING DRESSES.** We can now offer some very cheap New Goods for the season, at extreme low prices. Several thousand yards fine Mohair, superior quality, and in every New Colour, 6½ yd. a yard, cut in any lengths. Striped "ambles," full 70 in. wide, 9½ yd. a yard. Same quality last year was 1s. 4½ yd. The finest French Repe, all wool, 1s. 6½ yd. a yard. The entire Stocks of two Manufacturers of French Printed Cambrics, 6½ yd. a yard. Household Linens, Sheetings, Longcloths, Quilts, Counterpanes, Tablecloths, and all plain Drapery are now at the lowest prices ever known; and many descriptions of Cotton Goods are half the price of last year.  
Patterns post-free.  
HENRY GLAVE, 334 to 337, New Oxford-street, W.C.

**CHEAP BLACK and COLOURED SILKS.** Silk Velvets, velvetines, Terry, &c. Fancy Coloured or Black Silks, good quality, commencing at 1s. 11½ yd. a yard. A very superior Black Glace, wide width, 3s. 11½ yd. a yard; for Dresses and Jackets, 1s. 11½ yd. Patterns post-free.  
HENRY GLAVE, 334 to 337, New Oxford-street, W.C.

**MOIRÉ ANTIQUES.** SEWELL and Co. have the largest selection of Spitalfields Moiré Antiques in White, Black, and all the New Colours, at 4½ yd. the Full Dress.  
Compton House, Frith-street, Soho-square, W.

**BABY LINEN.** In 3, 5, 10, and 20 guinea B. r. r. Basinettes, 2½s.; Baskets, 10s. 6d.; Christening Robes, 2½s. 3½s. 4½s. Improved Nursing Corsets, 10s. 6d. Lists of Mrs. YOUNG, Outfitter, 128, Oxford-street, London, W.

**TO FAMILIES FURNISHING.**—Lease of Upholstery and Carpet Warehouse being sold, a genuine bond sale is going on of STERLING CABINET FURNITURE, at an abatement of 20 per cent. Intending buyers will do well to inspect the Stock.—G. DIACK, 113 and 115, Oxford-street, W.

**GENUINE SALE of CARPET and CURTAIN STOCK.**—Lease disposed of.—The excellent Stock of Carpets and Curtain Materials is offered at an Abatement unprecedented. Curtains consist of Lyons and English Silks, plain and figured; Terry, Silk Repe, Wool Dito, Lace pleases, Fourniers, Crêpe French and English Chintzes, with a rare variety of Portières, &c. The Sale will continue for One Month, and Samples forwarded.—113 and 115, Oxford-street, W.

**LADIES and the PUBLIC** are invited to inspect  
**SPENCE'S** New, Useful, and Cheap

**SILKS.** Striped Silks, from £1 15s. 6d. the Dress.  
Pique Glaces, in the New Colours, from £2 2s. the Dress.  
Black Figured Dito, from £1 15s. 6d. the Dress.  
Black Satins, from £2 2s. the Dress.  
Patterns post-free.

**MANTLES.** The "New Costumes," in Velveteen, Blue Serge, Water-proof Tweeds, and Black Silk. New Styles in Velveteen Jackets, from 12s. 9d. Specialties in Waterproofs, 14s. 9d., 16s. 9d., 18s. 9d., and 21s.  
Velvet Jackets, from 42s., beautifully trimmed.

**FANCY DRESSES.** Luxemburg Cord, New Spring Colours, 10s. 9d., 12s. 9d., and 14s. 9d. Full Dress.  
French Popline (all wool), 12s. 9d. Full Dress, all Colours.  
Coralline Cloth, Striped and Chéné, 12 yds., 8s. 9d., 10s. 9d., 12s. 9d., and 14s. 9d.

**SPENCE'S** New, Useful, and Cheap DRESSING, BIGGONS, HOSIERY, GLOVES, LACE, TRIMMINGS, FANCY, &c. Family and Complimentary Mourning. JAMES SPENCE and CO., 76, 77, and 78, St. Paul's-churchyard. Illustrated Catalogue, with Sketch of St. Paul's and its Churchyard by George Augustus Sala, post-free on application.

**FARMER and ROGERS** respectfully intimate that they allow for READY MONEY a DISCOUNT of FIVE PER CENT upon all Purchases exceeding 20s. Regent-street, London; and Marlborough House, Brighton.

**FARMER and ROGERS** announce the completion of their arrangements for the present Season, and request attention to their magnificent Variety of SHAWLS, CLOAKS, SILKS, FANCY COSTUMES, and DRESSES.  
COSTUMES OF THE SEASON. THE HYACINTH. NARCISSUS. POMPADOUR. MARITANA ROBE DE SOIE.

**CLOAKS OF THE SEASON, FOR THE PROMENADE.** MARIE ANTOINETTE. PAULINE. FLORETTE. THE GEM. All graceful shapes, and exquisitely trimmed.

**OPERA CLOAKS OF THE SEASON.** THE TYCOON, made without a seam, elegant and graceful. THE UMBRITZER, bordered Opera Cloak. Great care has been bestowed upon the manufacture of this Novelty, which is one of the most successful Italian effects ever produced in the art. The above exclusive and recherche Novelties have been designed expressly for FARMER and ROGERS, and can be purchased only at their Establishment, 171, 173, 175, and 179, Regent-street, London; and Marlborough House, Brighton.

**THE STOCK OFF.** THE LATE MR. WHITEFIELD, Silkmercer, Bond-street.

**PETER ROBINSON** has bought this Stock, amounting to £10,425, at a large discount off the cost price, and will offer it for Sale on MONDAY, APRIL 6, and following days. The house of S. A. Whitefield and Co., late Atkinson and Whitefield, established many years in Bond-street, has been distinguished for a high class of goods, in which excellence of taste was the prevailing feature; for this reason it enjoyed the patronage of a large portion of the aristocracy. In Evening Dresses it stood pre-eminently, and in this and other departments Ladies will find every inducement to purchase largely. Peter Robinson's, 103 to 108, Oxford-street, W.

**ABSOLUTE SALE,** continuing MONDAY, MARCH 30, and following days, at Ten o'clock each day.

**BY ORDER OF THE EXECUTORS,** the large and valuable STOCK, amounting to £25,000, OF THE LATE MR. HARVEY, which consists of the best Makes of Family and Household Linens, Double Damask Tablecloths (to 10 yards long), with Napkins and Slips to match, for which

**GLOUCESTER HOUSE, 69, Ludgate-hill,** has been famed for over FIFTY YEARS. The whole of the Fancy Silks and Dresses, Shawls, Silk Jackets, Mantles, Ready-made Frockcoats and Skirts, Costumes, Gloves, Hosiery, Ribbons, Lace, Sunshades, &c., will be reduced and re-marked in plain figures, at a reduction of nearly 50 per cent for cash. 69, Ludgate-hill—69, Ludgate-hill.

**MRS. C. COLLEY** solicits Ladies' attention to her large assortment of Chignons, French Curle, Coffreurs, Plaits, Wigs, Fronts, and every description of Ornamental Hair, all of the newest style and first quality. C. Colley, Perfumer, Hairdresser, &c., 28, Bishopsgate-street Within, E.C.—N.B. Orders by post promptly attended to.

**LADIES' UNDERCLOTHING.**—CHAS. AMOTT and CO., Saint Paul's, are now SELLING a Bankrupt's Stock of the above, at less than Half Price.—Underclothing Catalogue—140 dozen Nightgowns, in genuine heavy cloth, usually sold at 5s. 11d., may be had for 2s. 6½ yd.; 110 dozen of Nightgowns, trimmed with silk, and worth 5s. 6d., will be sold at 2s. 3d.; some good Nightgowns, made of fine and stout Horrocks's longcloth, worth 9s. 6d., trimmed with work, will be sold for 2s. 11d.; 180 elegant Nightgowns, elaborately trimmed with insertion and work, worth 14s. 6d., will be sold for 6s. 11d.; 212 beautiful Cambric, 12 yds., will be sold originally 5s. 9d., are marked 2s. 11d.; 760 beautiful cambric and longcloth tucked Petticoats, worth 5s. 6d., may be had for 2s. 11d.; 250 Petticoats, beautifully made, with 15 tucks, originally 8s. 9d., will be sold for 4s. 11d.; a lot of Petticoats in superior qualities, trimmed with muslin work, worth 3s. 11d., are marked 1s. 11d.; 140 Pairs of Corset Stays, very superior, worth 7s. 6d., will be sold for 3s. 11d.; 200 all-wool damask Dressing-gowns, in elegant Paris styles, worth 8s., will be sold at 4s. 11d.; a lot of Ladies' Cambric Morning Wrappers, 4s. 11d., worth 18s. 6d. Price-lists of all departments, with full details of the immense stock, post-free.—CHAS. AMOTT and COMPANY, 61 and 63, St. Paul's, London.

**EVENING and PROMENADE JAPANESE SILKS.**—CHAS. AMOTT and CO., St. Paul's, will SELL Next Week 3000 beautiful Japanese Silks, Rose, Pink, Mauve, Silver Grey, Blue, and also useful Colours, at 1s. 3d. 6d. Full Dress; worth 3s. 6d. Patterns post-free.  
61 and 63, St. Paul's, London.

**VELVETEEN for DRESSES, MANTLES, and JACKETS,** beautifully soft and silky, at 2s. 6d. the yard; usually sold at 4s. 6d.  
HARVEY and CO., Lambeth House, Westminster Bridge, S.

**WEST CENTRAL MOURNING WAREHOUSE,** for FAMILY and GENERAL MOURNING of every description, at the most reasonable prices. HOWITT and COMPANY, 286, 227, 229, 230, High Holborn.

**Z. SIMPSON and CO., 66 (late 48, 49, 50 and 53), Farringdon-street,** are now SELLING a large and unusually cheap Stock of SILKS, in Black and Colours, every price to 10s. 9d. per yard.  
A large and choice Selection of SPRING DRESSES, considerably under usual prices; also, Drapery, Ribbons, Hosiery, Gloves, Haberdashery, Trimmings, &c.  
Z. Simpson and Company, 66 (late 48, 49, 50, and 53), Farringdon-street, City.

**THE TIME TO BUY MUSLINS CHEAP.** A large Consignment just imported from Messrs. KOEHLIN FRERES, Rue du Sentier, Paris. This celebrated firm were the most successful Exhibitors at the Exposition, 1867, and this year's productions, both in mode, tints, and cheapness, surpass any of their previous efforts.  
We are enabled to offer the whole purchase at the extraordinarily low prices of 10s. 6d. the Full Dress. Fast Colours. Patterns free, of GEORGE BURGESS, FRENCH MUSLIN IMPORTER, 137, Oxford-street, W.

**LADIES.**—The most Elegant Styles and Durable Fabrics in BOYS' ATTIRE, at a saving of 25 per cent. at N.W. LONDON CLOTHING COMPANY'S WARE-ROOMS, 65 and 66, Shoreditch.

**SHILLING PACKET OF FANCY INITIAL** NOTE-PAPER and ENVELOPES, consisting of Three Dozen Sheets of Paper of three sizes, and Three Dozen Envelopes of three sizes to match the paper, all stamped with reversed cypher in colour. Any initial letter may be had. Sent free by post for thirteen stamps.  
FARKINS and GOTTOS, 24, 25, 27, and 28, Oxford-street, London, W.

**A USEFUL PRESENT** for 2s. (or free by post for 28 stamps), fitted with Paper, Envelopes, Pencase and Pens, Writing-case, Blotting-book, &c. The price of 20s. and silver medal was given by the Society of Arts for its Utility, Durability, and Cheapness. 400,000 have been sold. Can be had at FARKINS and GOTTOS, 25, Oxford-street, London, W.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** for Children's Diet.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** for all the uses to which the best Arrowroot is applicable.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** boiled with Milk, for Breakfast.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** boiled with MILK, for Supper.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** to thicken Soups.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** to thicken Sauces.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** to thicken Soups.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** for Custards.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** for Blancmange.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** for Puddings.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** One Table-spoonful to 1 lb. of flour makes Light Pastry.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** Packets, 3d.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** Packets, 4d.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** Packets, 5d.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** Tins, 1s.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** Tins, 14lb., at 9d. per lb.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** Tins, 14lb., at 9d. per lb.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** Tins, 14lb., at 9d. per lb.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** Tins, 14lb., at 9d. per lb.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** Tins, 14lb., at 9d. per lb.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** Tins, 14lb., at 9d. per lb.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** Tins, 14lb., at 9d. per lb.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** Tins, 14lb., at 9d. per lb.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** Tins, 14lb., at 9d. per lb.

**BROWN and POLSON'S CORN FLOUR,** Tins, 14lb., at 9d. per lb.